THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

HAROLD BURSON
JOHN S. CHASE
SONDRA G. MYERS
WALTER A. NETSCH
ALAN R. NOVAK
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

February 8, 1983

NOON
12:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: March 8, 1983
April 12, 1983

B. Approval of December 14, 1982 minutes of the Commission of Fine Arts.

C. Commission of Fine Arts Budget Hearing, February 8, 1983, 10:00 a.m., report.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Department of Interior, National Park Service (on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund)

CFA 8/FEB/83-1, Site plan for the location of the sculpture and flag staff additions to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

B. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

1. CFA 8/FEB/83-2, Car Care Center, renovation, Bolling Air Force Base.

2. CFA 8/FEB/83-3, Navy Lodge Facility for Transients, Belleview Housing Area, (between Bolling Air Force Base and the Naval Research Laboratory).

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 8/FEB/83-4, Flagpoles placement and designs, Western Plaza, 14th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., resubmission.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS CONTINUED, February 8, 1983

D. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA 8/FEB/83-5, Admiral Rickover Medal, design.

2. CFA 8/FEB/83-6, Fred Waring Medal, design.

E. District of Columbia Government, Department of Housing and Community Development, Office of Licences and Inspections

1. Old Georgetown Act, Appendix I.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act, Appendix II.

a. S.L. 83-27, NS&T Bank Addition, 15th and New York Avenue, additional design studies.

b. S.L. 83-34, 2125 Kalorama Road, N.W., Embassy of Portugal, addition.

c. S.L. 83-35, Commodore Hotel, conceptual design for one story addition and penthouse, North Capitol Street and F Streets, N.W.

d. S.L. 83-36, Judiciary Towers, 450 H Street, N.W., conceptual design review.

e. S.L. 83-37, Metropolitan Square, Phase II, 615 15th Street, N.W.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
* O.G. 83-22	1025 Thomas Jefferson St., N.W. Crow Washington #1	Construction of a new structure with office space, commercial space and accessory parking.

ACTION: Issue permit. No objection to proposed revisions to approved design. Further modifications not recommended.

O.G. 83-28	3337 P Street, N.W. Jean Philippe & Francoise Briffaux	New terrace with two bedrooms

ACTION: No objection to design where visible from public space. Submit working drawings for approval by Commission of Fine Arts. Exterior materials shall match existing house in texture and color, or be submitted to Commission of Fine Arts for approval. Recommend that care be taken with respect to finish grades of garden and terrace areas and that they relate with minimal disruption to adjacent garden areas. Working drawings should contain data showing the grade relationships indicating change from existing and relationship to adjacent properties and public space. This concept approval is subject to approval by District of Columbia Government code and zoning bodies.

O.G. 83-30	1208 30th Street, N.W. S R Associate VII	Fire escape in light court

ACTION: Issue permit for fire escape. Architect has indicated that the paint finish can be non-black, Board recommends a neutral color.

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* O.G. 83-31	1230, 1228, 1230½ 31st St., N.W. Richard Stauffer, G.P.	Hamilton Arms

ACTION: Issue permit. The proposed changes and the submitted working drawings received and dated 3 January 1983 are approved. The applicant must erect a mortar and bricks sample panel on site for final approval prior to commencing construction of exterior finished wall.

O.G. 83-32 | 1300 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Interstate Federal Savings and Loan | Install automatic teller machine

ACTION: Issue permit for installation of automatic teller machine within existing window opening. Upper sash shall be retained.

O.G. 83-33 | 1301 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
GEW INC
T/A Little Tavern Shops | Little Tavern awnings

ACTION: Issue permit for new awnings. Plans conform to recommendations of the Georgetown Board made and reported under OG 83-01.

O.G. 83-34 | 3308 N Street, N.W.
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Joseph H. Smith | New entrance steps, garden wall.

ACTION: Issue permit for replacement of existing wood stairs with new stoop and stair as shown in drawings received and dated December 17, 1982. New brick and stonework shall match existing materials.

O.G. 83-36 | 3400 Prospect Street, N.W.
Prospect Associates | Retaining Wall

ACTION: No objection to temporary widening of existing masonry opening in garden retaining wall on 34th Street for a period not to exceed 18 months (refer to previous action: OG 80-163). Request submission of overall site plan proposal in conjunction with additional walls or alterations.

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* O.G. 83-37	1206 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Michael O'Harro & James Desmund	Renovation and addition for proposed restaurant

ACTION: Issue permit for renovation and addition to existing structure as shown on working drawings received and dated 26 January 1983. No objection to materials, textures, color and lighting as proposed.

O.G. 83-39	3333 N Street, N.W. Federal City Corp.	Repair to dormer

ACTION: Issue permit.

O.G. 83-43	3131 M Street, N.W. Samuel M. Levy	Construction fence

ACTION: Issue permit for temporary 8'-0" high, plywood construction fence (as shown on drawings received and dated 3 February 1983) for period not to exceed 12 months.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN UNDER THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
S.L. 83-14	501 13th Street, N.W. J. A. Weinberg	Warner Building doorway

ACTION: Issue permit for alterations to doorway. Stucco should be painted to match terra cotta.

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*	S.L. 83-18	15th & New York Ave., N.W. NS&T Bank	NS&T Addition

ACTION: No objection to concept of addition, recommend additional study of upper portion of tower. If the lower facade is to blend with the architectural character of the older construction, the tower element should be studied to play a more neutral role in the transition between existing structure, the new lower facade, and the new brick building under construction to the east.

	S.L. 83-20	300-302 2nd Street, S.E. Lois Vitt	Alterations and repairs

ACTION: Issue permit. No objection to proposed infill of passageway provided brick is painted to match existing house.

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*	S.L. 83-21	606 18th Street, N.W. Bacon House Foundation	Bacon House

ACTION: Issue permit for alterations and repairs to yard wall and outbuildings.

	S.L. 83-22	215 Pennsylvania Ave., S.E. Public Citizen	Replace existing windows

ACTION: No objection to permit issuance provided proportions of glass/lights is vertical and similar to existing.

S.L. 83-23	501 13th Street, N.W. 13th & E Associates	Warner Building doorway

ACTION: Issue permit for alterations to doorway. Stucco should be painted to match terra cotta.

S.L. 83-24	112 3rd Street, N.E. Mr. & Mrs. William Cresswell	Interior work in basement and kitchen

ACTION: No objection due to distance away from Shipstead-Luce Act boundary.

S.L. 83-25	601 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. Westminster Development Corp.	Install temporary fence and pedestrian barricade for demolition of building.

ACTION: Approved. Issue permit.

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* S.L. 83-26	727 15th Street, N.W. 727 15th St., N.W. Limited Partnership	Twelve story office building

ACTION: Issue permit. Working drawings are in conformance with Commission's preliminary approval, (SL 82-10).

S.L. 83-28	221 and 223 A Street, N.E. Mr. & Mrs. Patterson	Renovation of two townhouses, concept.

ACTION: No objection to concept pending final review and approval of details.

S.L. 83-29 637 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
F & E Litwin

Replacement of original-type shop doors by Don Hawkins for Fred Litwin

ACTION: Issue permit for new doors within existing openings.

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* S.L. 83-30 2112 F Street, N.W.
Metropolitan Medical Clinic

Medical condominium, revised preliminary design

ACTION: No objection to revised preliminary design as shown on drawings received and dated 3 February 1983. Request submission of working drawings and material samples prior to issuance of permit.

S.L. 83-31 2900 Benton Place, N.W.
Theodore Manoasakis

Renovation to house

ACTION: Issue permit.

S.L. 83-32 701 Fourth Street, N.W.
Fourth & G Partnership

Renovation to driveway

ACTION: Issue permit.

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MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

February 8, 1983

The meeting was convened at 12:15 p.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
Hon. John S. Chase
Hon. Sondra G. Myers
Hon. Walter A. Netsch
Hon. Alan Novak
Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
Mrs. Sue Kohler

National Capital Planning Commission staff present: Mr. George Evans

D. C. Historic Preservation Office staff present: Mrs. Tanya Beauchamp

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings, approved as: March 8, 1983
April 13, 1983 (Wednesday)
(changed from April 12)

B. Minutes of the December 14, 1982 meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, approved.

C. Commission of Fine Arts Budget Hearing, February 8, 1983, 10:00 a.m., report. The Secretary reported that he and the Chairman had just returned from the Commission's annual hearing before a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee and had been encouraged by the response of the members to the Chairman's statements.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Department of the Interior, National Park Service (on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund)

CFA 8/FEB/83-1, Site plan for the location of the sculpture and flag staff additions to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The first speakers for this submission were officers of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, followed by their architect, sculptor, and landscape architect. John P. Wheeler, chairman of the board of the Fund, began by noting that there had already been a million visitors to the memorial, that the visitation rate compared well with that of the Lincoln Memorial, and according to reports by volunteer guides, the reaction of 95 out of 100 visitors had been favorable. He said he thought the memorial was accomplishing its mission.

Robert Doubek, project director and secretary of the Fund, than discussed the three proposals submitted and approved by the Secretary of the Interior for the placement of the flag and sculpture. The proposal favored by the VVMF was labeled Scheme A. It showed these elements grouped at the southwest entrance to the memorial area. The flag was placed at the crossing of two paths and the sculpture nearby in a glade, open at front and back. The placement preferred by Secretary Watt and others was labeled Scheme B and showed the flag behind the walls at the apex and the sculpture on axis with it, in the open ground encompassed by the walls. Scheme C was proposed by a staff member of the American Institute of Architects. It placed the flag on the main path near Henry Bacon Drive and the parking area. The sculpture was placed farther south, next to this path.

Exhibit A

Turning to a discussion of the type of name locator proposed, Mr. Doubek said that after much study it had been decided that a simple telephone directory type would be preferable to an electronic name finder from several points of view: ease in finding a name, problems of maintenance, and expense. There would be locators at four places in the memorial area and volunteers to help at peak periods. Copies of the book would also be for sale nearby.

Architect Kent Cooper was then introduced and discussed the placement of the flag and sculpture, as represented by Scheme A, through the use of drawings, a model and a number of slides. He said that in approaching the problem of locating these elements, he had first looked at the urban design aspects of Constitution Gardens as a whole. He found that the natural entrance to the memorial occurred where two paths cross at the south corner, and it seemed, therefore, that this would be the most desirable place for the flag and statue.

According to Scheme A as developed, the long trunk path would be retained in its present location and the other path relocated. The flag would be placed at the crossing and there would be an inscription on the base honoring all who fought in the war. In placing the sculpture in an opening in the trees near the flag, Mr. Cooper said care had been taken that the figures looked out toward the memorial walls but at the same time did not turn their backs to the flag. Some small existing trees would be removed, and the site would also be slightly regraded, so that the statue would be in full view from the paths and at the apex.

Mr. Cooper then discussed the four name locators. He said they would be interspersed with the street furniture already in place in the area. They would be low enough to be easily accessible to the handicapped and would be made of bronze, simple in design. He showed the members a full size mockup, noting that the design needed further development and refinement.

The next speaker was sculptor Frederick Hart. He said he was strongly supporting Scheme A as giving the sculpture and flag the most prominence without destroying the original memorial design.

Landscape architect Joseph Brown discussed the exhaustive analysis that had been made of the height, variety, and location of all trees on the site, and the effort to create a "room" for the sculpture with a minimum of disturbance to the existing planting. Mr. Cooper then commented on the turf within the wall area, noting that the surface drainage had not been satisfactory; he said they had been working on a change of soil mixture, among other things, to correct this problem.

Following these official presentations, a number of people asked to speak. Congressman Duncan Hunter spoke first, in favor of Scheme B. He thought the Commission should accept this scheme, not because it was better esthetically, but because it was the one that resulted from the compromise agreement between those veterans who approved of the winning design for the memorial and those who did not. He said those who were against the design had withdrawn their objections only because they had been assured that the flag and statue would be placed as shown in Scheme B. He implied that the Commission had agreed to this compromise.

Mr. Netsch said there had been a misunderstanding, that the Commission had never made any agreements at a private meeting. The Chairman agreed, citing Secretary Watt's letter of February 25, 1982 asking the Commission's opinion on the additions to the memorial and the Commission's reply on March 9 of that year, which suggested attention be given to an entrance location.

Former Congressman Donald Bailey, and Vietnam veterans Tom Carhart, Milton Copulous, and Scott Brewer also spoke in favor of Scheme B, citing the compromise agreement and other reasons.

Brigadier General (Ret.) George B. Price was another speaker. He said he regretted the statements that had been made about the Commission by others, and gave his recollection of the compromise agreement. He said he and General Michael Davison (Ret.) of the VVMF's national sponsoring committee, in response to requests, had asked for the addition of a flag and statue to the memorial. He recalled that the Fund had already been considering the addition of a flag at that time. The request led to the meeting, chaired by Senator Warner, at which it was decided to submit what was later called Scheme B as the first proposal, with alternates to follow if that was not considered esthetically acceptable. He then urged the Commission of Fine Arts to make its choice according to its own wisdom.

Cooper T. Holt, chief of the VFW; Morgan Ruph of AMVETS; and representatives of several other veterans groups supported Scheme A, the Memorial Fund's choice.

Patrick B. Davis, a Vietnam veteran and member of the AIA, gave his reasons for supporting Scheme C. Gordon Mansfield, representing the Paralyzed Veterans of America, spoke about problems of the handicapped that needed to be addressed, particularly the location and surface of walks in the area. Volunteers working at the memorial gave their observations on circulation and comments of visitors.

When everyone had been heard, Jan Scruggs, president of the VVMF, commented on a poll taken by Milton Copulous, in which Scheme B had been strongly favored. Mr. Scruggs said a poll evaluator had analyzed it and come to the conclusion that it was seriously flawed, that the drawings were poor and the questionnaire incomplete. Robert Doubek then entered into the record the VVMF's statement on the compromise agreement. Exhibit A-1

At this time the Chairman turned the discussion over to the Commission members, noting that they would now complete the process begun at the October 1982 meeting. Mr. Stone moved that Scheme A be considered the preferred plan for locating the flag and sculpture. Messrs. Novak and Chase seconded the motion. The Chairman gave his view of the relative merits of the various schemes. He said he preferred Scheme A, although there were good things to be said for all three; the problem was to visualize what each would "feel" like if implemented. He said Scheme B had an appeal because of its

symmetry (noting that the plan presented in October had not been the same, being more asymmetrical). But he also observed that the elements would actually never line up unless approached in a strictly axial way. Also, when looking upward at the apex, the flag staff would be cut off. Again, the flag would be difficult to approach because of its location, especially for the handicapped, and therefore the inscription on its base would not even be seen by most visitors. Turning to a discussion of the sculpture, he said he had had considerable experience in placing sculpture outdoors, and the first impulse to place it in the open was always proven wrong because there were no scale-giving elements. He observed also that the size and monumentality of the walls would destroy this piece, which is little more than life size. In contrast, he said, Scheme A would place it in a prominent place--at the front door--and where it would benefit from the scale of the nearby trees. Also, it would actually be closer to the wall in this scheme than in the others. The flag, too, would benefit from its placement at the junction of two paths, where it would become a focal point and the inscription could be easily read.

Mr. Netsch said he agreed with the Chairman's statement, but wanted to add that he thought the Commission should take very seriously the comments made about handicapped access and weather problems when further details of the scheme were presented.

The Chairman then asked for a vote on the placement of the sculpture and flag; the members were unanimous in favor of Scheme A.

The discussion then turned to Mr. Netsch's comments, with the Chairman suggesting that some pavement may have to be incorporated into the turf area to improve access and solve water problems. He was also concerned about plans for lighting. Mr. Cooper said lighting engineer Claude Engel had been asked to look into this. The Chairman noted that if the flag is to fly continuously, there would be the problem of lighting it at night, and giving the visitors the impression the memorial was to be visited at night, with the attendant danger of someone falling off the wall in the dark, and the inconvenience of not being able to read the names and inscriptions. He thought perhaps the memorial would have to be considered primarily a daytime experience. He said the Commission would look very carefully at any light standards proposed, because of the Mall location.

Mr. Netsch brought up the design of the name locator, saying he was not really pleased with it, especially the shape, which was a repetition of the angle of the memorial walls. Mr. Cooper said this was not intended, but agreed the design needed further study.

Mr. Netsch was also not convinced the telephone directory type of name finder would be practical; he thought pages would be torn out faster than the books could be replaced. He said he would favor an electronic finder. Mr. Doubek said that the "video game" aspect of this had bothered him. Further, such a finder would not really be easy to use and would be very expensive for the Park Service to maintain. He said the directories could be replaced frequently at very little cost and would also be available for sale in advance to those who wanted them.

It was agreed by all that the best course would be to erect mockups of the stand with the directories in place and see how the system worked before approval was given.

Mr. Novak commented on the course of the discussion at this meeting. He said he had noticed substantial agreement this time on the effectiveness of the memorial, now that it had been open for several months, even by those who opposed it; and he said he was pleased, too, to note that much of the rancor, noticeable earlier, had disappeared. Exhibits A-2, A-3

The discussion of this submission having been brought to a close, the meeting was recessed briefly and reconvened at 3:25 p.m.

B. Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division

1. CFA 8/FEB/83-2, Car Care Center, renovation, Bolling Air Force Base. The Assistant Secretary noted that the members had seen the gas station on this site when they toured the base earlier in the day. He introduced Frank Gerlach from the Navy to show drawings for the proposed expansion of this station into an auto maintenance facility. The members had no objection to the design of this building but Mr. Stone commented on the need for landscaping on the base generally, and particularly to screen the strip parking lots along the main roads. He said he understood a master plan was underway and would provide for planting street trees. Mr. Gerlach confirmed this and said planting would also be provided around the car care facility and the housing to be reviewed next. The car care facility was unanimously approved. Exhibit B

2. CFA 8/FEB/83-2, Navy lodge facility for transients, Belleview housing area, between Bolling Air Force Base and the Naval Research Laboratory. Mr. Gerlach showed drawings of this housing facility which would replace old units built during World War II. It was a motel type structure of stucco, aluminum and glass. There were no objections and it was unanimously approved. Exhibit C

C. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 8/FEB/83-4, Flagpoles, placement and design, Western Plaza, 14th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., resubmission. The Assistant Secretary reviewed the Commission's request at the December meeting to see a master plan and a more complete presentation of the placement of the poles and the design of the base. The members had been particularly concerned about the bulbous nature of the base as presented at that time. James Rich of PADC was then introduced; he showed section and elevation drawings, as well as photographs of the plaza from above, to show the relation of the various elements within the plaza to each other and the relation of the flagpoles to the vista along the avenue. He said the poles would help define the space but would not interrupt the vista; he noted that Robert Venturi had been concerned about this. He also showed new drawings for the flagpole base. He said it was Mr. Venturi's preference that the base be large and similar in character to those in the Piazza San Marco in Venice. He said they were an abstraction of a classical base design. There were two options, one less bulbous than the other. The members had no objection to the scale, but were still not pleased with the detailing of the design. The Chairman thought perhaps the balloon-like, "inner-tube" quality could be minimized by the use of filleting. The placement of the flagpoles was approved, but further study of the base design was requested. Exhibit D

D. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. CFA 8/FEB/83-5, Admiral Rickover Medal, design

2. CFA 8/FEB/83-6, Fred Waring Medal, design

Staff member Sue Kohler introduced George Schafer from the Mint to discuss these medals. She noted that the Fred Waring medal would be one of a series of three.

Mr. Schafer first showed drawings of the Rickover medal. It will be struck in gold for the recipient and in bronze for general sale as will the Fred Waring medal. The drawings showed a portrait of the Admiral on the obverse, with an inscription on the reverse. The members made the following recommendations for modification of the obverse: move the name from the left of the portrait to the bottom edge of the medal, following the curve; remove the atomic structure diagram from the right of the portrait and use two of these, rather than dots, to separate the words at the top of the medal. On the reverse the recommendation was to omit the lines separating the parts of the inscription and also the periods (indicating an omission), following the word "distinguished".

The Fred Waring medal was approved with the exception of one recommendation concerning the obverse: the artist's initials should be reduced in size so that they do not appear to be part of the design. Exhibit E

E. District of Columbia Government, Department of Housing and Community Development, Offices of Licenses and Inspections

1. Old Georgetown Act, Appendix 1, approved.

2. Shipstead-Luce Act, Appendix 2, approved.

a. S.L. 83-27, NS&T Bank addition, 15th and New York Avenue, additional design studies. Staff member Jeffrey Carson reviewed the recommendation made after the previous submission of this project that the design of the tower be restudied in a more contemporary manner. He recalled that the members were also concerned that there might be a problem with continuing the old style on the street facade of the new addition, since the original building had already been extended twice. They thought this was of particular concern because there was no strong element at the end to prevent the feeling of a weak, and unending, facade. Mr. Carson then introduced architect Alexander Jeffries to discuss a new design he had developed in response to these concerns. He showed a model with a tower designed in a simpler style. Three bays of the street facade of the new addition followed the style of the old building but had the added emphasis of an end pavilion. The remaining two bays along the street were set back slightly and followed the tower design. The members all thought this design a great improvement and it was unanimously approved.

b. S.L. 83-34, 2125 Kalorama Road, N. W., Embassy of Portugal, addition. The Assistant Secretary told the members the Portuguese government was proposing to add a third floor to a two story garage and chancery addition on the west side of the original house, overlooking the French embassy grounds. He said there had already been a number of additions to the house and asked Mrs. Kohler to give the members some historical information. Mrs. Kohler said the house had been built in 1914 by the William Watson Lawrence family. Mr. Lawrence had built what is now the French embassy next door in 1910. The architect for both houses was J. H. deSibour. In 1929 additions had been made to the rear and east, and after the government of Portugal bought the house in 1945, they made further additions to these areas, as well as a front entrance addition and the garage/chancery wing on the west.

Architect Peter Manning, from the firm of Sverdrup-Parcel, was then introduced. He showed drawings and a model of his proposed mansard roof addition. The members found this awkward and not sympathetic to the original house, which is characterized by gables and fairly steep pitched roofs. Mr. Manning said he had considered simply extending the brick up another floor and ending with a flat roof but had rejected that because of appearance. As the space at the front would be a new office for the ambassador, Mr. Netsch suggested using the gable form to make a spacious and elegant room for this important function. Mr. Manning thought this would be too expensive and wasteful of energy, but the members did not think this was necessarily so, and the Chairman thought the results in terms of attractiveness and prestige would justify the small increase in expenditure. Mr. Manning was asked to restudy the addition; it was unanimously disapproved.

c. S.L. 83-35, Commodore Hotel, conceptual design for one story addition and penthouse, North Capitol and F Streets, N. W. Mr. Carson recalled several previous submissions for renovations and alterations to this hotel. He said this submission was for the addition of another floor, to be used for three apartments. He introduced architect Gunter Buerks from Perkins & Will, who showed elevation drawings and plans of the proposed addition. The members found the design sympathetic to the original construction, and approved it unanimously.

d. S.L. 83-36, Judiciary Towers, 450 H Street, N. W., conceptual design review. The Assistant Secretary introduced the applicant, Professor James Chandler, who in turn introduced the architect, C. Robert Buchanan, to discuss his design for this mixed-use project. The building would be located just north of the General Accounting Office and adjacent to a parking lot for St. Mary's Church on 5th Street. Drawings showed a ten story tower; a restaurant occupied the first cellar and ground floor, with offices from the second through seventh floors, and apartments on the three top floors. Mr. Buchanan said that with one exception all walls would be smooth limestone in a grey color similar to the GAO building; wrap around horizontal bands of windows, of untinted glass, would be flush with the walls, giving the building a slick, smooth appearance. The facade adjacent to the GAO would be brick. On the upper floors of its east elevation, the building was distinguished by a circular motif formed by segments of glass and bands of limestone. The circle was repeated on the opposite side by means of a reveal in a windowless area at the same height. The members were pleased with the design and approved it unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

PROPOSAL FOR LOCATING FLAG AND SCULPTURE
VIETNAM VETERNS MEMORIAL

Scale 1"= 20'
14 January 1983

Cooper Lecky Partnership - Architect
EDAW - Landscape Architect
Frederick Hart - Sculptor

SCHEME A

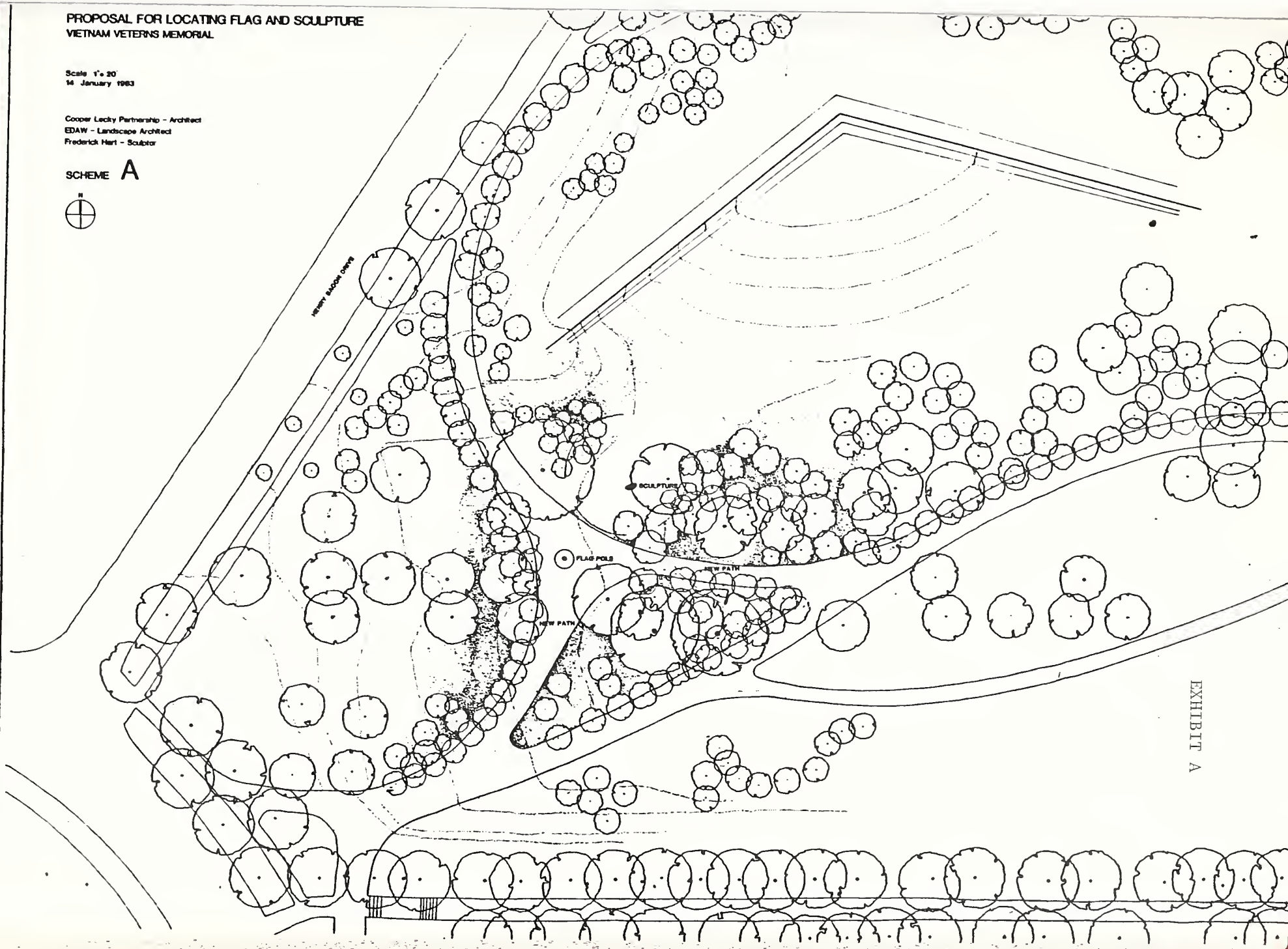


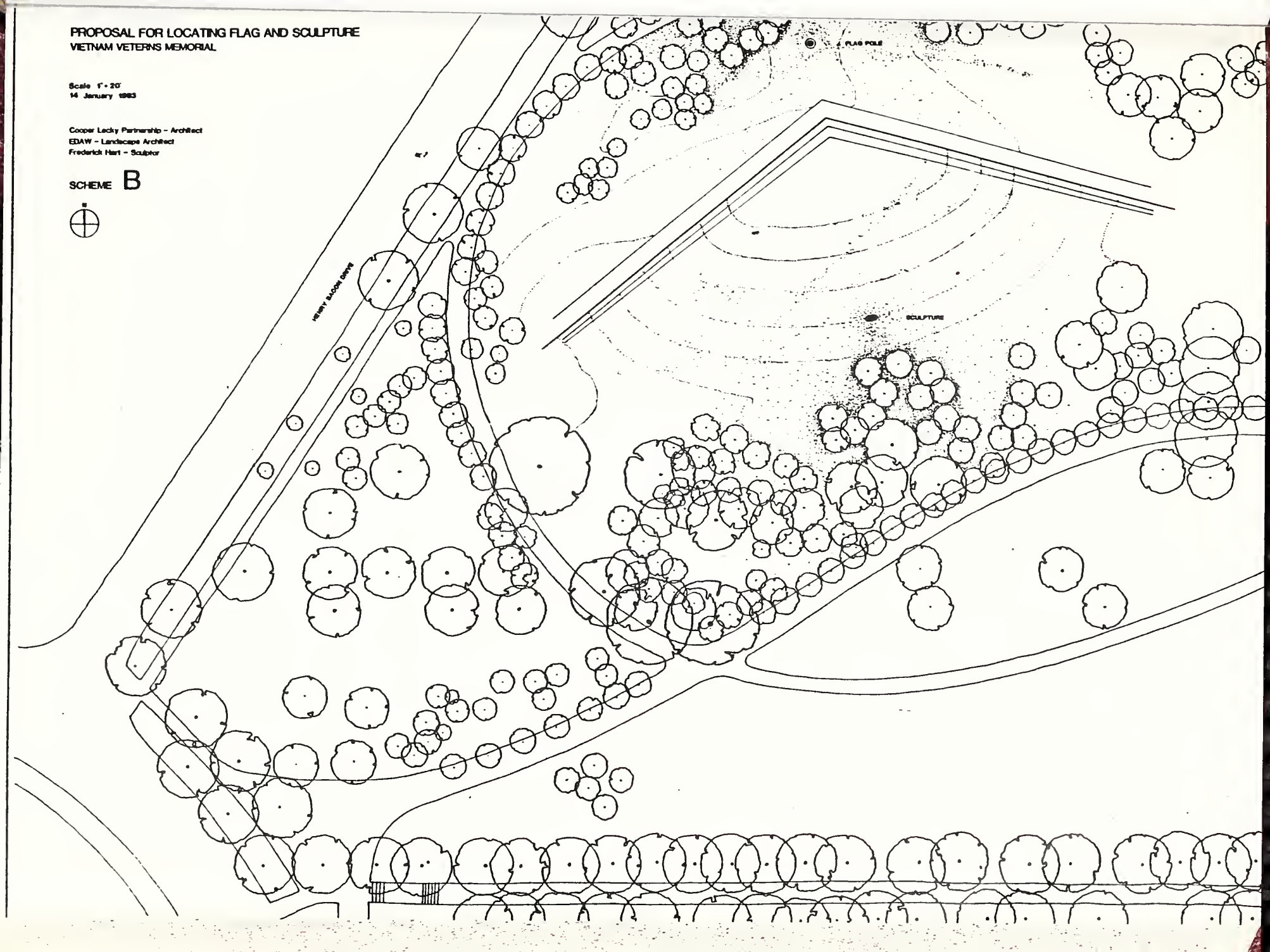
EXHIBIT A

PROPOSAL FOR LOCATING FLAG AND SCULPTURE
VIETNAM VETERNS MEMORIAL

Scale 1" = 20'
14 January 1983

Cooper Lecky Partnership - Architect
EDAW - Landscape Architect
Frederick Hart - Sculptor

SCHEME B



PROPOSAL FOR LOCATING FLAG AND SCULPTURE
VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

Scale 1" = 20'
14 January 1983

Cooper Lecky Partnership - Architect
EDAW - Landscape Architect
Frederick Hart - Sculptor

SCHEME C

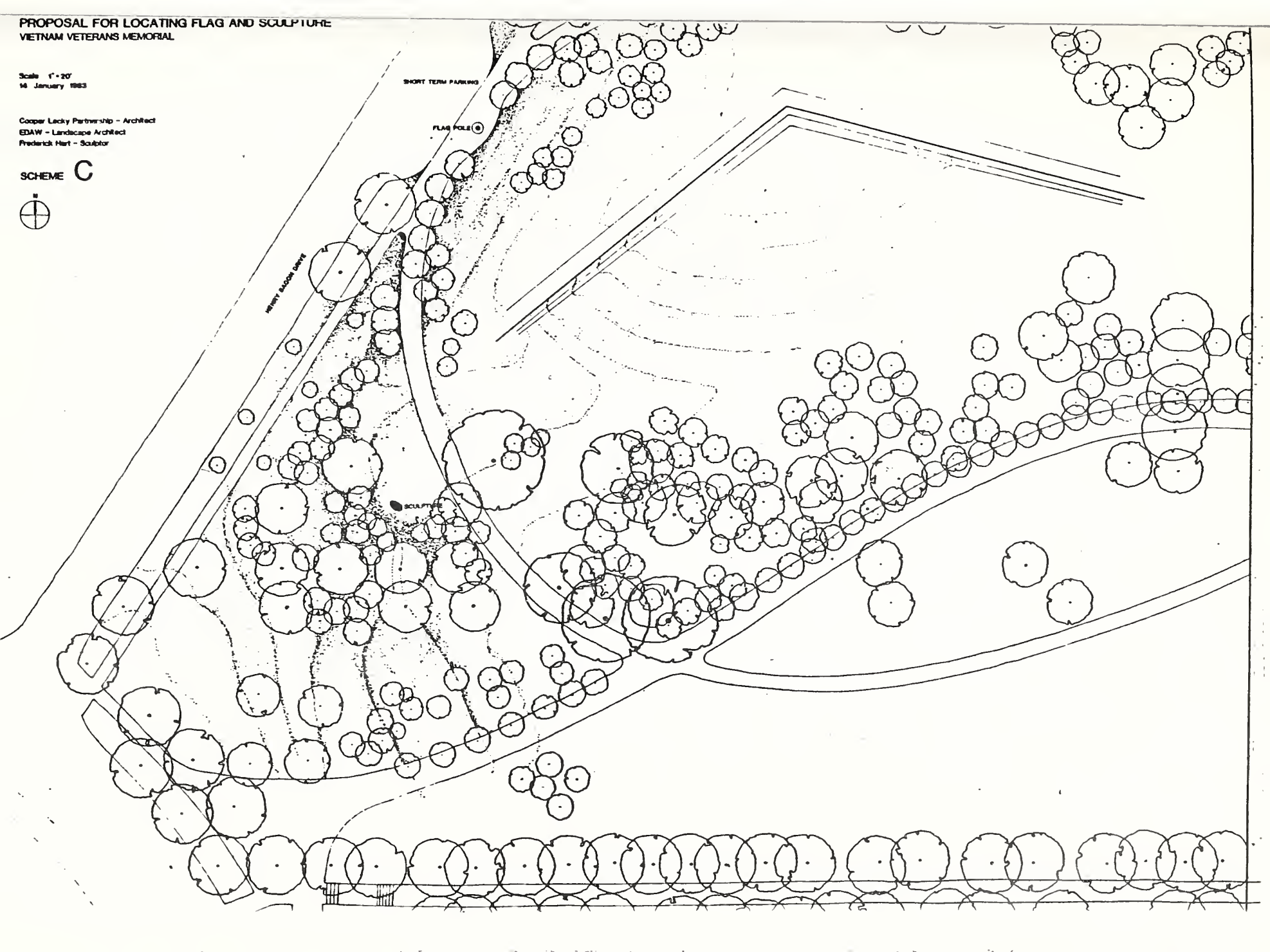


EXHIBIT A-1

STATEMENT OF THE

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL FUND

REGARDING COMPROMISE AGREEMENT

December 14, 1982

There has been much erroneous information regarding the provisions of the "compromise agreement" by which the flag pole and sculpture were added to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. We wish to set the record straight regarding what we did and did not agree to in order to get the memorial built.

At the January 27th, 1982, meeting with the opponents of the basic design of the memorial, chaired by Senator John Warner, the representatives of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund agreed to do three things. First, we agreed to modify the planned inscription for the walls of the memorial to read as it does today, by the substitution of the word "honors" in the epilogue for the planned word "remembers". Secondly, we agreed to use our best efforts to add a sculpture of a single serviceman in the area bounded by the two walls of the memorial. Finally, we agreed to use our best efforts to add a flag staff at the site, with no location specified. We stated that we could not guarantee that these elements would be added or what their locations would be, because their addition to the memorial was subject to the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) as well as the Secretary of the Interior. We made it clear that CFA approval was needed.

The opponents of the design agreed to cease their political effort to block approval of the design and to allow the planned March 1st groundbreaking to occur on schedule. It was also agreed at the meeting that the same group would reconvene at some later time to consider various alternative designs for the sculpture. VVMF agreed to cull from the slides of entries in the design competition all those containing works of figurative sculpture, to reproduce sets of these slides, and to distribute them to principal attendees for their review prior to the next meeting.

The agreements regarding the inscription, the sculpture and the flag staff were subsequently ratified by the VVMF Board of Directors. VVMF duly researched the slides of all competition entries and reproduced and distributed sets of those containing works of figurative sculpture.

Work at the memorial site was begun on March 16, 1982, and ground was formally broken on Friday, March 26th. In early April, 1982, VVMF, in accordance with the suggestion at the March meeting, formed a "sculpture panel", whose function it was to select the sculptor, the design of the sculpture, and the locations for placement of the sculpture and flag staff and to present its selections to the VVMF Board of Directors. The panel was equally composed of opponents of the basic design - James Webb and Milton Copulos, - and supporters - Arthur Mosley and William Jayne. Webb and Copulos felt that they were bound by, or at least had to honor, the votes at the March meeting. The sculpture panel asked Frederick Hart to develop preliminary design concepts for the sculpture. During development of these concepts, VVMF allowed consideration of a grouping of three servicemen rather than just one. On the basis of the panel's recommendation, VVMF contracted with Mr. Hart on July 1, 1982, to develop a scale presentation model, showing three soldiers, which was publicly unveiled on September 20th. In early October the sculpture panel completed its proposals for the locations of the flag staff and sculpture and a proposal for an inscription to be placed at the base of the flag staff. The VVMF Board of Directors determined, as a demonstration of good faith, to forward for Federal approval the sculpture panel's proposals without modification. The panel's proposal was in part approved and in part rejected by the Fine Arts Commission on October 13, 1982.

With its endorsement of the sculpture panel's proposals for the design of the sculpture, the locations of the flag staff and sculpture and the addition of an additional inscription, and its efforts to have these proposals approved by the Federal agencies, VVMF completely fulfilled the spirit and letter of its original and only agreement, made on January 27th, 1982, regarding a sculpture and a flag staff. VVMF had previously fulfilled its agreement to modify the planned inscription for the walls. Above and beyond the agreement, VVMF has made two additional accommodations to the opponents. First, VVMF agreed to a sculptural grouping containing three figures as opposed to a single serviceman originally agreed upon to be added to the site. Secondly, VVMF allowed for the addition of an entirely new inscription for the memorial, on the base of the flag staff.

On February 4, 1982, VVMF reported its agreements to Secretary of Interior Watt, who indicated his satisfaction with them. Because he did not have sole authority to approve the design and plans for the memorial, Secretary Watt on February 25th wrote to CFA and NCPC regarding the substance of the agreement and requested their concurrence in the concept of the additions as a precondition to his issuance of a permit for construction to begin. His letter noted that the precise locations of the flag staff and sculpture were yet to be decided. CFA, which approved the concept of the additions at its meeting on March 9, 1982, suggested in its report that the two additional elements might be located at the entry area to the memorial. NCPC had approved the concept of the additions at its meeting on March 4, 1982, and Secretary Watt, by a letter of March 11, 1982, issued final approval of the design and plans of the memorial in accordance with Public Law 96-297. The letter, which VVMF received shortly after noon on March 11th, stated that approval was given "with the express understanding that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund will add better and proper language bringing honor to all 2.7 million Americans who served in Vietnam as well as design refinements, by separate submittal, for a flag staff at the site and a statue of a serviceman."

Coincidentally, the second meeting between opponents and VVMF representatives had been scheduled for that same day, and was convened by Senator Warner at 3:00 p.m. Just prior to the meeting, VVMF was informed that Ross Perot, the organizer of the main group of opponents who had attended the January meeting, wished to change the agenda from one of considering alternative designs for the sculpture to one of determining exactly where the sculpture and flag staff would be located. Mr. Perot subsequently caused votes to be taken by a show of hands on these issues. As at the prior meeting, the handful of VVMF representatives were far outnumbered by the group of opponents which Mr. Perot and others had organized to attend the meeting. Most of these individuals had done nothing to support the memorial effort. Not surprisingly, the votes indicated that the majority of people in the room desired the flag staff to be located directly at the vertex of the walls of the memorial and the sculpture to be located within the triangular area bounded by the two walls of the memorial. VVMF, which had already received Secretary Watt's final approval of the design and plans based upon the agreements reached in January, made no guarantees to locate the elements as determined by the show of hands. At that meeting, Mr. Perot also made a proposal for an additional inscription to be located at the base of the flag staff. A show of hands was taken on this proposal as well, showing that a majority of the persons in the room approved it. Finally, it was suggested that an executive committee be formed in order to develop the detailed proposals for the flag staff and sculpture.

MR. NOVAK: Second.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. We then move to the report of the Commission of Fine Arts Budget Hearing. That is today's hearing.

MR. ATHERTON: Mr. Chairman, I included this on our agenda simply to provide for its inclusion in the record of the hearing, in the official minutes of the Commission. I have nothing else to report on that.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: There will be a court record of that which will be public information when it is published.

We will move now to the Submissions and Reviews. The first is submitted by the Department of Interior, National Park Service, on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, a question of site plan for location of the sculpture and flag staff additions to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Mr. Secretary, would you like to introduce this?

MR. ATHERTON: Mr. John Wheeler, the President of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, will be the first witness to appear.

MR. WHEELER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission.

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The Memorial Fund presents today solutions for placing the statute, flag, and name locator at the Memorial site. This task that has been before the Commission of Fine Arts, the Secretary of the Interior, and the National Capital Planning Commission, has been a hard one. We have faith that the decisions in this process will be the best for the country. Vietnam veterans went into battle in allegiance to the institutions of our country. The same allegiance is reflected in our trust in the design approval process established by Congress and the President.

I have some good news to announce today. Since the memorial opening three months ago, I estimate that over one million vistis have been made to the site.

Over 350,000 people came during the days of the unit reunions, vigil of names, Entertainers' Salute, National Cathedral remembrance service, and the weeks following.

Over 300,000 came during Dedication Day on November 13.

Over 30,000 visited during Thanksgiving week end.

Over 300,000 have visited at other times in November, December, January, and February.

The number of daily visitors is growing. The present daily count about equals the count at the Lincoln or Jefferson Memorials, or the Washington Monument.

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Volunteers are at work fulltime each day to guide people to names.

The Park Service manages the volunteer system, and more volunteers are needed.

These figures show that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial has become a new national landmark.

The reports of the Park Service volunteers are important. For example, one volunteer has written that he has no doubt that 95 out of 100 visitors leave with a favorable impression of the design. The volunteers are witness to hundreds of personal encounters each day. They say that in the presence of the Memorial voices grow softer. Visitors touch the particular names that draw them to the site. From watching the faces of so many visitors, it seems that the Memorial is a profoundly moving and contemplative place.

These developments, Mr. Chairman, since the dedication of the Memorial show that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial honors and recognizes all of us who served in the Vietnam War, those who came back alive and those who did not. The Memorial Fund, with the approvals given by the Commission of Fine Arts, the Secretary of Interior, and the National Capital Planning Commission, is accomplishing the mission given to us by the Congress and the President.

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If I may, sir, let me now introduce Robert Doubeck, who is the Project Director, as you know, of the Memorial activity.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

MR. DOUBECK: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

We appear today to present for your selection of approval three alternate proposals for the location of the sculpture, flag, and directory holders at the Memorial site.

As you recall, this Commission approved the addition of these elements in October, but returned their locations for further study.

We are also presenting today a revised design for the directory holders.

Following your action in October, VVMF brought together Kent Cooper, our architect; Frederick Hart, the sculptor, and Joe Brown, the landscape architect, who has been retained to consult and look into an integration of design, and consult on location problems.

Proposal "A", to my right, is the result of cooperative effort. At the request of Senators Mathias and Warner, and to accommodate the interest of Secretary of Interior Watt in having this Commission and the National Capital Planning Commission consider several options for locating the sculpture and flag staff, the VVMF, in January, developed and submitted

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proposals "B" and "C".

Proposal "B" is that preferred by former Congressman Don Bailey and his associates, which closely approximates the proposal which we submitted to you in October.

Proposal "C" was suggested as a means to provide strong visual presence for both the flag staff and sculpture from major adjoining streets, while preserving the entry concept.

While VVMF strongly prefers proposal "A", it shall honor its commitment to carry out whichever of these plans this Commission and the National Capital Planning Commission approves and selects. We believe that proposal "A" maximizes the strength and impact on the Memorial of our national flag and the sculpture of fighting men by Mr. Hart, and at the same time it achieves an integrated, harmonious whole for all elements of the Memorial, without detracting from or interfering with or diminishing or overpowering the flag, the sculpture, or the walls. The overall plans of Constitution Gardens is respected and further refined. It is most advantageous for handicapped access.

Mr. Cooper and Mr. Brown and Mr. Hart will present the details of this, our preferred proposal, but I would like to first outline our thinking on the name directory function.

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Its purpose, as you know, is to allow visitors to quickly locate a particular name on the chronological listing on the walls. No matter what medium would be developed to provide this, a permanent directory function at the site, we planned to and did produce a bound volume which you see here, which consists of the names in alphatebical order and provides their exact location on the wall by panel and line number, as well as other identifying information about each individual. We are presently distributing about 2,000 copies of this to congressional offices, the Senate, VA hospitals, and other offices that families and veterans are likely to be contacting for information about the memorial.

We did detailed research into the questinn of a permanent on-site device to which visitors may refer when no Park Service guides are on duty. The alternatives we considered included a mechanical rolodex and weatherproof housing, a computerized system with names displayed on the TV screen. We found the best bystem was simplest, this printed directory in a weatherproof enclosure. It is best because it is dignified. It is not a gadget, it is not intrusive at the site. A visitor doesn't have to follow any special instruction to use it. The names can be found more quickly than with a computer.

We plan for four separate holdings, including one which is specially designed for the handicapped. Additional

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ones, of course, can be added as the needs dictate. Above all, we feel this proposed system is the best one because of its ease of maintenance, which consists simply of replacing the volumes as they become worn or damaged. Consequently, it will never be out of order.

No device, of course, could exclusively accommodate the visitor or the locator function at extremely high periods of visitation. This need will be met, especially during the first two years of the memorial operation, by the National Park Service volunteer guide program. A dedicated group of local citizens has already donated uncounted hours in assisting visitors at the site.

During the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans and the dedication of the memorial in November, the tremendous positive emotional effect of the memorial on veterans and non-veterans alike was evident. We urge this Commission to select one of the three proposals before you so that the VVMF can continue its work and complete the memorial by the end of this year.

I would now like to introduce Mr. Kent Cooper, our architect.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

MR. NETSCH: Excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I did not recall his saying how many of those units would be required at the

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site.

MR. DOUBECK: Presently we plan for four. But it is almost infinitely expandable. It can be added to relatively easily, and at low cost, if there is a need dictated. More can be added as needed.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Are there locations indicated on the proposals?

MR. COOPER: No. I am planning to speak to that, if I may.

Mr. Atherton, here is some formal testimony, if you would like to have it for the Commission.

MR. ATHERTON: Thank you very much.

MR. COOPER: I would like to tell you a little bit about what we have done since the meeting last fall in which you asked that we consider the formation of an entrance plaza and an integrated design which would be both a fitting location for the sculpture, a prominent location for the flag, as well as reflect the basic design.

We started our work looking at the urban design aspects of Constitution Gardens, because we thought that is where the real problem was. The plan that you see here of the overall garden indicates the present path structure. As we go to the site, those of us that know the site well, and

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the design team are all competitors, unsuccessfully, in the competition, so we feel that we know the site. We found at the location the crossing of these two paths is, in truth, the entrance point of the site. One of the problems of this kind of an entrance is that the tree cover at that point is so deep that it makes it impossible to get a visual connection between the bowl and memorial and any added elements such as the flag and sculpture, so we did something that could not be done in the competition; we took a broader look, because the competition limited the consideration to the path, the surrounding or perimeter path structure, and we looked at what could happen: Was it possible, in truth, to create a new entrance place, a new path structure that would, in truth, feed the required circulation from the Lincoln Memorial into the Vietnam Memorial grounds, and we are proposing to interrupt the one path, maintaining the large trunk path that goes all of the way east-west, and thereby take this point and move it up to there, where we can use it from the design standpoint. It is really as simple as that. And that is what we think is the entrance and, we hope, the genius of this particular solution, which we think, in truth, really meets what everybody wants. We hope so.

Involved in doing this, we need to relocate one piece

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piece of path, and we have only four small trees, which were of very recent planting, to move. So in terms of doing violence to the existing garden, we don't think that we are doing that at all: rather, we think that perhaps we are using the plan of the existing garden to greater effect.

Our plan is, therefore, to locate the flag staff at the crossing of the paths. It is a 50 foot high flag staff. At the base there is a small inscription, which has a symbolic value to it, and I have given Mr. Atherton a paper which contains the inscription which is planned to be inscribed on the base, along with the five service insignia, which is also listed for you.

This is a preliminary design concept.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: What would the inscription read? Could we have that?

MR. COOPER: I would be glad to give you that. The inscription reads: "This flag represents the gift of service to the American people by the veterans of the Vietnam War. Its presence at this site reaffirms the principles of freedom for which they fought. It flies continuously to honor their pride in having served their country under difficult circumstances."

We think that this kind of an entrance point location

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is eminently successful for an object, a piece of sculpture, a flag staff that bears such an inscription, and we really have had long and, as you are well aware, real problems with taking an entrance element and burying it in the back field here. It just doesn't seem like it makes sense, to us.

The next thing is, given this newly created entrance concept and plaza, if you would, how do we place the sculpture, which is really a given, and Frederick Hart is going to speak in a minute about this. We wanted to place it in a way that didn't turn its back on the flag, and yet continued to gaze out on the apex of the memorial, and as it turns out we have a very fitting location about 35 feet off the main path structure. The sculpture is clearly visible from this end, from about that point. It is visible all of the way along, but there are stalks of a couple trees that begin to intervene when you hit about a third of the way down.

We are proposing to hollow the ground slightly in this area, to continue the bowl on up, actually, to the feet of the sculpture, putting some superelevation on this piece of ground in this area of around six to eight inches, which will make it possible for us to stand in the bowl and not have the angles of the sculpture cut off. Rick Hart has a nice way of saying it, that the sculpture is placed in a position that ushers one into the memorial grounds, and it

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seems like it is perfectly fitting, tucked, as it is, into the grove of trees.

Joe Brown is going to talk in a few minutes about the landscape treatment of this.

I would like to call to your attention this is a preliminary design. We are in a political process, as you are well aware, and we really need to get where we are going to put this decided before we can go too much further in terms of trying to work on paving textures and a detailed landscaping plan. Should you select this, we will be back with that information a little bit later.

With respect to the locators, we thought long and hard about this, and your consideration last fall was rather adamant, that we do something that was better than a telephone book holder. We tried to pick up on the idea that, as all of you know, that the paths in Constitution Garden are lined with street furniture, benches, trees actually planted in wells in the paths, trash containers, phone booths, drinking fountains--the complete gamut. All of these things exist along the site here, all the way along.

We are proposing to take this small, sort of lectern-like pedestal object that you see here, which has been designed to be fully in scale with the other street furniture,

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and we built a little cardboard model of this in order that we might demonstrate how this might operate. We needed to have a device, we wanted a device that was not an enclosed booth, you know, like a telephone booth. It seemed just a little out of character. We wanted something that would work for the handicapped, for children, as well as adults. It obviously needs to be weather protected, and so we came up with this small, diminutive design. We are proposing that this become a bronze casting. That is the next stage of development. We would propose to begin to continue with the sculpture development first.

Right now this is a little bit pointy, sharp-sided, sharp-ended, but this was built to test the function. In actuality, we have had a couple of these made out of plywood and safety glass, instead of plexiglass, which are going to be placed temporarily on site until whatever permanent object is approved by the Commission can be placed, in order that we get the directories out there now while we need them.

I think it is clear that this is an easy thing to use. The relection off the glass does not seem to be objectionable. The angles are calculated so that it takes a fiercely driving rain to get any moisture, other than the humidity of Washington, into the books. It is easy to take the books out and replace them, and a stock will be kept at the Lincoln Memorial.

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One of the criticisms that has been made of this kind of thing is that people are going to tear out pages, and this may happen, but one of the things we thought we could do is to put in the same container a place that we can stack these little handouts, and if somebody has the opportunity to take something away with them, perhaps they will not do so much violence to the books.

Incidentally, locating a name is pretty possible out of this, too. Not only would you write the line down on this thing, but if you have any idea of the date of death, it is all in the book to begin with.

The question then remains will this accomplish what has been required, and we feel that, in truth, it will.

This view is taken from the Lincoln Memorial side. It seems to bring the tree elements, the basic wall, the flag pole 50 feet high, and the 70 foot loam, and the sculpture, into pretty good focus with each other, and as a result we think that we have, in large measure, solved the design.

Because you are not making a site trip, I would like to use a couple slides of the model which will show you the model view and then an actual view on site. If we may, would you cut the lights for a minute?

This is a view taken from the Lincoln Memorial of

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the grounds. The blue van is parked at the apex, and you can see the amount of ground that lies between the edge of the run around the memorial and the Vietnam Memorial.

Elevated slightly, looking in the same direction, you can see what this tree cover is. The model, incidentally, has been refined. We went out and measured every doggone tree very, very carefully, and we have built trees in this area only of the model that are in true scale to what is on the ground.

Moving up upon it,you can see the new path link connecting the Lincoln Memorial, the old trunk path that runs the full east-west amount of Constitution Gardens. Moving up, you can see the intersection, the plaza, the sculpture, and, of course, the apex.

Now, here is a view looking, generally speaking, from Henry Bacon Drive right straight across in the area we are talking about, with the placement of the flag right in here. You will notice that there is the same row of trees as you go back and forth, and you can see that they exist in the model. You can see that this will, in truth, begin to be a dominant kind of area, an object along the perimeter path.

Looking back in the opposite direction, across toward Henry Bacon Drive, in the background the view will be like this.

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Looking from the apex of the memorial back toward the location of the sculpture, the flag pole is located about there, the sculpture is located there. You can see the flag pole coming up directly into this nitch in the trees, which exists. There are two different nitches -- one is here -- two rooms -- and the other one is directly off the end of the memorial.

Here you can see how the flag will sit into the nitch of trees.

This is another similar view, with the late afternoon sun coming through, which is an accurate sun angle, incidentally. Here it is hard to see, but here is a six foot stepladder placed at the point of the sculpture, which is exactly located where we are making a proposal to put the sculpture, so you can see that we are not putting this thing in left field at all. This has very much of a presence, and there has been no removal of the grade or no change of grade.

Here is a telephoto view,just to get you a little bit closer so you can see the scale, and the flag pole is sitting right back in here, right in between the three trees, filling the nitch. There it is up close.

I would like to call to your attention, also, the fact that we respected the fact that there is a beaten path being

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pushed along through the grass, which is exactly where the new path that we are proposing is located. People are using the village square principle or campus syndrome principle to make their own path, and while we didn't, at the start, set out to do this, when we got down and looked, we said, good Lord, that is exactly what we have done, so I think the people are confirming that which we found as a design in this case.

Thank you very much.

Fred, would you like to add your statement?

MR. HART: Mr. Chairman, distinguished Commission Members: I strongly and enthusiastically support scheme "A". This solution succeeds in fulfilling our original goals for preserving the integrity of the original design, while at the same time unifying all of the elements into a single memorial statement.

On the other hand, there can be no doubt in the scheme the original design is treated with utmost reverence. By the clustering and sequential arrangement of the elements, the locators, the sculpture, the oversize flag, with the flag staff inscription, the sculpture and flag achieve a far greater emphasis, coherence, and prominence than in any other solution we have been able to provide.

In addition, the new sidewalk and plaza treatment

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further enhance and focus on the visual impact of the flag and sculpture, giving them major roles in the tone and impact of the memorial as a whole. With this solution, I genuinely believe that everyone on both sides of the issue can fully achieve their objectives. I sincerely believe this solution can effect a reconciliation, which has been one of the primary and long-sought goals of this memorial.

Thank you.

Mr. Brown will speak next.

MR. COOPER: Joe, would you like to detail the landscape considerations?

MR. BROWN: I think Kent has really said most of what needs to be said, and I think there is some landscape design work to be done in terms of actual plant material, but I might say, based on our last meeting, I think you sent us away saying to look at the trees and plant material out there more closely, and that is what we have done, and we became particularly fascinated with this area here. Kent has described the walkway revisions, which I think is one of those examples where you find a small idea and at the right time and place and it becomes a very good one and very big one, but we were particularly concerned with the big oaks. You can see there are basically three of those, and then the maples below those.

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Some of those are newly planted. We have done everything possible to preserve the basic trees and not only preserve them, but augment their quality and perception of them. We have transplanted three maples to create what we are calling an "ushering-in room". We see it now as green, and you can come off of the entry plaza, where the pedestrian area would be most dense, and the compaction dense, and then you would move to this room in, I think, an open way, so that there would not be one path by which they would be filtered through that room.

You can see from where Mr. Stone is sitting that the symbolic relationships that Kent was talking about are really quite visible. The flag is literally waving over the sculpture and over the vortex in an entry scenario, and that curves in reverse: from the vortex you see a flag waving over the sculpture.

You can see a little gray edge that we are showing here to help define this ushering space below the large canopy, and we see possibly a lawn edge, a small lawn edge, and within that lawn edge we have a more stabilized turf, a bluff, so we define that with, possibly, granite steps, or some very lush treatment that gives it a little bit of upgrade in quality of material.

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We also see the introduction of understory planting, possibly compacted holly, to help shape that space again very subtly.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Am I right in saying that there is a kind of implied circle then around there?

MR. J. BROWN: The circle is very fragmented.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Does it show up on your drawing?

MR. J. BROWN: It does. You can see a little piece of it here and a little piece of it there, and a little piece of it right there. It is so fragmented, just to help subtly create that ushering-in part.

MR. STONE: A mixed surface, soft surface?

MR. J. BROWN: Yes.

MR. STONE: How, ultimately would you get to a path? Given, you know, that we were out there earlier in the day --

MR. J. BROWN: Over in here?

MR. STONE: Yes.

MR. J. BROWN: We feel that the beauty of the wall is its ability to approach from any direction, so we did not really want to make a walkway connection to that walkway, and the walkway itself is really part of the memorial, and to put a kind of mundane walkway connecting to it I think would demean it, so we feel that would just be an open space you would move through.

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You might move directly to here and then walk up, or you might come to here and go here, or you might come in here and go down and then walk up this way. So this is allowing for the most flexible variety of approaches.

MR. STONE: There are two very practical considerations, it seems to me. One is access for the handicapped, and, number two, the turf is in absolutely terrible shape at the present time, and I just wondered if, practically, we aren't going to have to have some solid walkway.

MR. COOPER: Could I speak to that, since I have been in the middle of that one.

MR. J. BROWN: I have not been involved in that problem.

MR. COOPER: One of the problems that we have had with the turf down there is that the subsurface drainage system has been working fine, but the surface drainage system has not been working as fine, and there has been a big negotiation going on between ourselves, the Park Service, and multiple designers about what kind of soil mix do we really want to use, what is the level of perk that we can stand. We know if water perks through too fast, it tends to dry out in August, so we are trying to get this balance and corrective action underway, and, you know, I think we have reached a position which we can all support as to that.

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MR. STONE: I don't mean to dominate the conversation, but given the success of the memorial as a place of pilgrimage, the implied traffic pattern, and I like what you say about the mix of soft and hard, but I don't know whether it works.

MR. COOPER: I think I ought to add another thing, that we have also been asked to study a permanent hard surface path system to reach the memorial. We will study this, and if one is proposed, it, obviously, will be brought back before you all. But, for one thing, we have got to get this issue of where we are going to put these elements behind us before we can put our heart into doing any of this, because that is going to be a bear of a design job.

One thing I didn't say -- Joe, I don't mean to interrupt you -- you asked me a question on the locators and I talked all around it and didn't ever answer your question. I am sorry. We are proposing to put four locators along here, interspersed into the existing street furniture, and we want to do it in a way that we don't have to take any trees or benches or anything out, and we can do that. We are also talking about putting one over near the near the bus stop near the Lincoln Memorial, and if more are requied, we can do it. It is a metal casing, and it is a piece of street furniture.

MR. J. BROWN: I think I can conclude and just say I have only spoken to this alternative, and we feel very comfort-

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able wit it. Really it is working with the existing canopy and plant material, as well, and the entry circulation. We have looked at every possible choice.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

MR. DOUBECK: Mr. Chairman, that concludes our presentation. We are prepared to answer any questions that you or the Commission members may have.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: We want to hear, also, from others here who might want to testify. I think we have a member of Congress here who is eager to get back to a vote. Perhaps it would be appropriate to give him an opportunity to speak.

MR. HUNTER: Thank you. My name is Duncan Hunter. I am a member of Congress, but I am participating in this hearing as a Vietnam veteran.

I would like to speak in favor of Proposal "B".

Let me see if we have it over here. This is proposal "B". As you can see, the flag pole is behind the apex; the sculpture is facing the walls within the "V".

Let me tell you from the outset that I am not recommending proposal "B" because I think it is an esthetically superior design, although I do, and I am not recommending it because I think that the flag and sculpture has to be integrated into the memorial, which I do, also; I am recommending it because it is a result of a compromise that was made by

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Vietnam veterans and by the VVMF, mediated by Senator Warner, on March 23 of this year that allowed this whole design and this whole program to go forward, and I would like to give you a little background.

I was asked to participate in this meeting. As you know, the reason we have a flag and a sculpture now is because there were some veterans in the United States, some organizations, a number of people, who felt that it was necessary to have a flag and a sculpture, and there was a great deal of resistance and, let's face it, and talk candidly, to the initial design, and there was at one time a number of requests sent to Secretary Watt not to approve the Vietnam Memorial. We all know that.

What happened is Senator John Warner sat down to try to mediate the dispute and try to bring some compromise that would allow this project to go forward, and he asked a number of Vietnam veterans to participate, a number of veteran organizations. We met on March 23 in a room near Senator Warner's office. Mr. Doubeck was present, Jan Scruggs was present, Maya Lin, the architect, was present, Mr. Cooper was present. Vietnam veteran organizations were present, veteran organizations such as VFW, American Legion, Amvets, and on down the line, were present at this meeting, and this meeting included a number

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of people who had raised objections and who were presently asking Secretary Watt to hold up on the design.

The result of the meeting was that we decided to put in a statute and a flag, and another result of that meeting was that we took nominations and votes on locations of where the flag and the statute should be because, of course, location was almost as important as having the flag and statute, and I recall -- in fact, I feel like I have been there before because I recall Mr. Cooper, when the first nomination was made, and that was to put the flag and statute in an entranceway concept, Mr. Cooper got up at this meeting, and, in fact, I think with this very model, and spoke to this concept, and he spoke to putting the flag and the statute right where he has it before you today, and I think this is Proposal "A".

That nomination was made, it was voted on, and it was voted down. Another nomination was made to place the flag and statute, I believe, apart from each other again, not in the memorial. Finally a nomination was made, and I believe it was by Don Bailey, my colleague, who is a most decorated Vietnam veteran in Congress -- unfortunately, no longer with us, but a real friend of this memorial, I might add, because it was his participation in the compromise that helped to get the project going -- he nominated we place the flag at the

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apex of the walls and we place the sculpture facing the walls, and I might add that this was voted on and we agreed to stand firm on this. Not a single member of this organization or any of the individuals I have named, or anybody else, stood up at this meeting and said I don't care what the compromise is, I am not going to live with it.

Following that meeting,we who had objections to the memorial withdrew those objections, and we told Secretary Watt go ahead, and I can remember myself, and I participated in the groundbreaking, and I went down and worked with Jan to turn over the ground, and I had no doubt but that this program would be accepted as was proposed and as was agreed upon by the Vietnam veterans. And to give you a little proof of what occurred here, I have a press release here -- it is not from myself, but is a joint press release put out by Senator Warner and Mr. Scruggs. I would like to read the first paragraph. This was March 24, 1982.

"Vietnam Veterans War Memorial compromise reached", Warner says. "Following months of debate and negotiation, a final design concept" -- final design concept -- "for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to be constructed in Constitution Gardens has been approved, according to Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation President, Jan Scruggs, and principal co-

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sponsor of the memorial's authorizing legislation, Senator John Warner of Virginia", and he goes on to talk about the flag and statute. He says about the flag, "the flag pole to be placed atop the apex of the two walls". He speaks of the flag pole. And "the statute to be placed in front of the walls". And the reason he spoke to that was because we took nominations and votes, and I know Mr. Cooper won't dispute this, on where the flag and the statute should be placed.

So I am here before you today to simply ask that you remember that pure esthetics or availability of entranceways or whatever are not the only considerations we are here to look at. We should look at this agreement that was made, and, you know, of all of the people who objected to this memorial initially, and who had contacted Secretary Watt and asked him to consider holding up the project, not a single one of those people again tried to do that. Everybody that I knew held to this agreement, and I know that you folks surely must have known about Senator Warner's mediation efforts; you must have known we were having meetings, and what confused me to some degree, I must say, is that in the press release, which, of course, I got and I was concerned about it and followed the whole situation, Senator Warner says -- this is March 24 -- "This memorial configuration" -- this is after he describes

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the flas as being at the apex and the statute facing the wall -- he savs "This memorial configuration received near unanimous approval from veteran organizations directly involved in the project, as well as the three governmental entities required by law to approve all memorials in Constitution Gardens, the National Capital Planning Commission, The Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States Secretary of Interior, James Watt."

So I am here to ask you to remember the compromise, the agreement, and ask you to honor the compromise and agreement that was made on March 23 by the veteran organizations representing millions of veterans in this country, as well as the VVMF leaders, and I would ask you to go along with the proposal that places the American flag at the apex and the sculpture in the "V" facing the walls.

I am open for any questions. I would just say this is Senator Warner's description of events that took place during that meeting. If you have any questions about it, I would be happy to answer them.

MR. NETSCH: Mr. Chairman, as a matter of record, I find a misunderstanding here in the statement that has just been made. We are, as I understand it, responsible for a set of decisions through a proper series of meetings, public

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open meetings, and the assumption that the Commission made an agreement in a private meeting is out of order with our procedures, and certainly out of order with any of the minutes that I know, so I just want the record to report that there seems to be confusion in that press release as to what actually happened.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: I think this is a question of historical record, and I think it is helpful, even if somewhat irrelevant, to be able to set it straight. I have to confess this is the first time I have seen this press release, which is on my desk here, and that it contains a phrase that the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts was a party to any such agreement or compromise is simply in error. We know errors are made, but it wasn't brought to us for our opinion. We never gave assent to it. The Congress, in its wisdom, passed a law which is very clear, very specific, that the design must be reviewed by the National Capital Planning Commission and by ourselves. I am sorry if this has caused confusion and difficulty, but it simply is not the fact. We were never a party to any such agreement, and to the extent one believes that an agreement could be reached without consulting us or bringing us into it, that is simply ignorance of the actual text of the legislation, and I think we have all experienced from our good friends who

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enforce the law in traffic "ignorance of the law is no excuse". We simply are not worried by that because it really doesn't relate to us.

I think that the other points that you have made are ones which we will take very much to heart in our deliberations, as we focus on this. But I am very grateful to you for allowing us to set the historical record straight, because there was no consensus, no agreement, or no deal at all.

MR. HUNTER: I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. I understand Senator Warner's press release is in error in that sense. The reason I brought it out is because the objectors to the memorial, people that have problems with it, felt they were entering into a compromise. And let's face it, if they hadn't come to a compromise, the project wouldn't go forward, because they said okay to Secretary Watt, go ahead and complete the thing. And I would like to say this press release may not have been known to you folks, but it was made available, literally, through the media, to millions of Americans, saying we got our statute and our flag and we have the flag at the apex; they are going ahead and it is great, and that is what I would like you to consider today.

Thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

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MR. HUNTER: Any other questions I would be happy to answer.

MR. NOVAK: Where is Senator Warner? Is Senator Warner here?

MR. HUNTER: I am not aware whether he was or not. I didn't see him come in.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: For further clarification for the record, because these are written documents, our only involvement at that stage was a letter from the Secretary of Interior saying he hoped we would consider the addition of these elements, and we wrote him back, and the text of that letter can be made available to anyone interested, saying that we would not rule on this matter in the abstract or apriori, that we saw every possibility that these elements could be added, and we added a paragraph in which we suggested that a fruitful location for such elements might be as grouped together to form some kind of entrance experience, but we had no preconceived ideas at that point would be bas-relief, would be very small or very large, and we were keeping an open mind all along. But the only official action that came through this Commission, other than approving the design for the walls, as modified under our review, and finally built, and no other prior approval was given. So, just so there are no hard feelings and every-

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body understands, we really were not involved in that process, except to the extent as stated in our letter.

MR. HUNTER: Understanding that, I wanted you to understand and realize what went behind the compromise, as manifested in scheme "B", and that was this agreement, which was a landmark agreement that allowed this whole thing to go forward, and I must tell you there will be veterans who will feel that they have been betrayed because, as I said, after that agreement was reached the word went out from the east coast to the west coast that that flag would be placed at the apex and the statute in the center.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Well, we can all be thankful that the United States of America is governed by laws and not by press releases.

Thank you. Who do we have next?

MR. ATHERTON: Mr. Bailey asked, also, to make a statement, I believe.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: All right. Mr. Bailey.

MR. BAILEY: Thank you very much. I will try to be brief.

You know, if it hadn't been, I suppose, for the efforts of some of us originally, there would not be a statute,

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there would not have been a flag, there would not have been an inscription. Let me add that I hope none of us are naive about why we are here today and there is so much controversy. I have a hard time accepting the proposition that the issue is solely one of esthetics. I am, incidentally, assuming that it is a foregone conclusion that you people are going to place the flag and statute and incription at the entryway. I wasn't born politically yesterday. And the resolution, the joint resolution and House resolution that were passed by the Congress, I am sure all of you are very much aware of what it says, and I will guarantee you that for those whose real desire was to see that the message of this memorial not be the one that I think we have largely succeeded in creating, and if I were back in that Congress to help Duncan Hunter, Mr. Chairman, it would be a matter of law. I found a way through that other body, I guarantee you, and I also want you to know that the struggle concerning the issue of message is not over -- it is not over.

I personally did not object to the original concept, and I don't today. I have seen every scurrilous tactic used in the press, in error in most cases. I do want to compliment the attitude of the people at VVMF, who, I think -- I am very sad to see the position they have taken here today, but

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I think originally, in terms of the compromise, there was, I hope -- I would like to think so -- a sincere effort to provide an aesthetically acceptable compromise on the issue of message.

You know, we can talk about entrance experiences, but I am hopeful that the memorial -- the wall will not become the memorial -- the inscription on the memorial, the inscription on the flag and the statute, the statute will become the memorial and the wall will be the honor roll that it is, hopefully. Time will yet determine that question.

I do want to make an appeal to you. The vast majority of those who wanted to make the so-called additions, and if the gentleman from Chicago, I believe -- I am not sure if he is from Illinois or Chicago -- in terms of setting the record straight -- I noticed he had a Daley button -- to use the word "additions" is not really correct either. The design as originally submitted, the concept, I think, raised some controversy. The message of the memorial is really what we are doing here today. We can cloud it with esthetics and that sort of thing. They are very important, but I don't think that statute and that flag, that proposal Duncan referred to as Proposal "B", is esthetically displeasing. I have great difficulty with that. If one of those things were outlandishly

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large or something, they could disagree, but I don't think we have that situation.

It is a very sad thing for me, and I will conclude with this, for this reason: When we cooperated with VVMF, and everyone involved in the venture, to not try to create any kind of political diversion that would prevent the going forward with the walls, the understanding really was that, and it was an assumption we erroneously made, and we did, and that was our fault for not analyzing things closely enough, but the understanding was that the memorial had not been committed for approval in toto, so I want to express my appreciation for the fact that you are accepting at least the flag and statute, but it saddens me a great deal that we have not had complete support on where to place it.

I want you to know that in good faith we did, because of some esthetic objections, try to reduce things in size and place them in a way that will still give us the message we want. I think we will win that battle. I did talk to some congressmen, incidentally, and you were not lobbied on this thing, and, in fact, they told me as of yesterday that they were lobbied by -- the words they used were "the fine arts community". I don't know if that is so or not. But it wasn't, at least, by veteran groups.

I think we will be discussing this again, and I thank

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you very much for the opportunity to speak. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Next among those asking to speak is Tom Carhart.

MR. CARHART: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I, too, will be very brief.

This has been a long and very emotional controversy. Very briefly I would like to, if I may, pull back this chart which shows the entryway concept. I was struck by something as I stood here. I am not an architect nor an artist, but I know the land in front of me. This is the circular path that goes around the entire lip. We were told the natural entry-way was somewhere on the border. There are trees here, and the open field is from this direction. The people, in the summertime they will not be on the path, but they will flow across the field. They want to see it. They won't approach it through the woods, because you can't see it from here. But from here you can see it, so if there is a natural entry, obviously it is through the opening.

If you must insist on the flag and statute, for what-ever reason, be it art or politics, and art is politics, as Plato said, then this is the obvious place to put them,unless you want to hide them. I realize this is a fait accompli, and so on, but you must consider even on this humble scaled

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model, in which the foilage is dramatically diminished from that which occurs in the summer and spring and fall, the flag is entirely hidden.

There is not a pathway from the supposed entryway, nor paths for the handicapped, to go down to the wall, so it becomes a matter of guessing where in that path to make the quote-unquote natural entryway. That is obviously not there. Also, there are flags far surpassing in volume the size of the flag that is placed between there and the wall.

Now, I am here as a Vietnam veteran. I got emotionally involved in this a long time ago, and I am still very caught up in it. I, like Duncan Hunter and Don Bailey, both who are members of Congress and Vietnam veterans, I am a combat veteran. I bled for my country, and a lot of my brothers died there. I don't mean they died some distance away, but they died in my arms. Their names are inscribed on this wall, and that is a powerful feeling to me and everyone that served in the wars for their country, whatever war and in whatever period. Those men died as heroes.

Whatever one's esthetic appreciation of the listing of their names on black marble might be, and that was the genesis of the fight, and it is a political fight, but whatever one's artistic taste may be, the placing of a flag at

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the apex of the wall was seen as an acceptable mitigation of that. Whatever you thought of the artistics, the flag and the inscription reaffirmed the principles for which they died, because there are principles that justify death, and those men lived up to that belief, and those who don't believe that deserve to live as slaves. This country is established on the principlesof absolute freedoms, and for those principles those men died.

Now, if we could hear from those men and women whose names are on that wall, where would they want that flag, they would want that flag right above them, as close as possible -- this is me, this is what I died for, America -- not over in the trees somewhere, out of sight, out of mind, and so I plead with you once again, although I realize it is a vain effort, to place the statute and flag at the compromised location which was agreed to by all veteran organizations, all opposing veterans, indeed by the 66 members of Congress who sent a letter of opposition to the President, who withdrew their letter after the compromise was released, based upon the idea the flag would go at the apex of the wall and the statute within the "V".

No matter what you do -- I realize that is beyond mine or any other power, of course -- time will pass and the ultimate decision will be made on this by the American people.

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I think Mr. Copulos, who will follow me, will indicate some sense of how the American people, and particularly veterans, feel about the placement of the flag. You can put the flag and statute wherever you want, and it may stay there or may not. It may be moved by popular acclaim sometime in the future. I realize that would be a highly irregular proceeding, but not impossible. It may take five years or it may take ten years, or it may never happen, but I believe the heartbeat of America is no better symbolized than by that flag and everything tied up in it, and for which those men and women died. I believe it would be a dishonorable disservice to them to separate them by even asshort a distance as across the field, let alone behind the trees, for a memorial that is dedicated in honor of all who served.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

General George B. Price, U.S. Army, retired.

GENERAL PRICE: Sir, I must confess I feel sort of in the wrong place, since I am neither a politician nor artist, and I do believe it is appropriate that I offer you the apologies of all of us who served our country if by innuendo or any other fashion the dignity or integrity of this group has been tainted. I find that regretable and, most assuredly, for

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those people with whom I work, extend my apologies.

Secondly, I was at that meeting that occurred in Senator Warner's office, and if we are going to talk about the Bailey proposal, then we ought to talk about the Davidson/Price compromise, because General McLain Davidson and myself were the ones that went over to the VVMF and influenced them to compromise their position in favor of adding to this memorial those elements which we thought would make it more complete, and by that meaning that we would add the statute and the flag, and you may be interested to know that the VVMF, on its own accord, had already considered the flag at that point, and thought it appropriate, and that they wanted to treat the entire two acres as a monument, and we seem to lose sight of that, focusing so much on the wall, and I do believe, if my memory serves me correct, that from that meeting it was decided by popular vote, if you will, that we would submit Proposal "B" as the first alternative, while reserving the other two which are presented by the VVMF, in the event the processes decided that was not aesthetically proper and was not decided on -- I think that is correct -- so we were considering a put-down on the premises of the first alternative that came out of that meeting, but not all of the alternatives, and we did consider them all, and I think that is important,

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and the decision was we would recommend to you that proposal in all faith and honesty, and if it became a matter of controversy and could not be approved, we would withdraw it and come to you with another proposal, and I think that is the way it happened. At no time was there any indication, by innuendo, and I learned that word since I have been in this -- I really like it -- or otherwise that you have been bought, politicized, begged, put down, or any other way influenced to arrive at a decision before you knew what it was that you were deciding. And so I urge you, one, to recognize that this procedure did occur, and, two, as all heroes, do what you think is in the best interest of this country, based on your legal and lawful responsibilities, and let the rest of it be damned.

I sort of feel that, and you know, Jan, you are a dear friend and I love you very much, but I am sort of feeling like many people felt about Martin Luther King -- I hope you don't have no more dreams soon. We can bring this dream to reality and we can bring this one to fruition, and I hope you keep awake and don't dream, but I can assure you we have nothing but the best of intentions and I can assure you we are trying to do something in the best interest of our country, and whether you take a zillion or a million number

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of veterans, the real thing that is important to them is that they have a place to come to, and that is important because it symbolizes a dedication and an era in their lives that is very important, and I think we can present this memorial to them in a fashion we can all be proud of, and I trust your judgment in that respect.

Thank you, sir.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Cooper T. Holt, from VFW.

MR. HOLT: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission: My name is Cooper T. Holt, and I am the Executive Director of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Washington office, and I appear before you representing the views of the Veterans of Foreign Wars regarding the three proposals presented before you for locating the sculpture and flag staff at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

As you know, the VFW represents almost two million veterans who served their country overseas during a period of war. Of that membership, well over half a million are veterans who served in Vietnam.

I certainly thank you for the opportunity to bring the views of our membership to assist in the final selection of the location of the remaining parts of the memorial. I

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believe that it is appropriate to restate to the Commission that the VFW has strongly supported the concept of a memorial to those who served in Vietnam. From the beginning of the formation of the ideas and the organization of the fund, the VFW backed the idea, providing moral and material assistance. Our fund raising is well-known, as is our support for the National Salute to Vietnam Veterans, which culminated in the dedication of the Vietnam Memorial.

As the Commission is aware, the VFW supported the addition of the sculpture and flag staff, which we thought would enhance the meaning of the memorial. We were pleased that the Commission accepted these additions.

Mr. Chairman, representatives of our organization have studied the proposals before you and find that the placing as represented on the scale model before you and on the site plan designated as Scheme "A" is most appropriate and artistic, and it is, therefore, our preference.

I might say, also, sir, that we do not like Scheme "C" at all. We are willing to accept Scheme "B", if the Commission approves. We believe, nevertheless, that Scheme "A" is preferable because ofthe prominent location of the American flag, which will be in the foreground of the memorial site, because the sculpture is displayed in a setting

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doing full justice to its own power, and because the contemplative atmosphere created by the highly polished walls is uninterrupted. We would urge you to accept this proposal so that the landscapping can proceed and the sculpture and flag can be added at the earliest possible time.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear before you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much, Mr. Holt.

Next Morgan Roof, of Amvets.

MR. ROOF: Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of the the Commission: I am the Executive Director of American Veterans of World War II, the Korean and Vietnam wars. It is our pleasure, on behalf of our 200,000 members, and approximately 50,000 who served during Vietnam, to appear before you today to present our views on the additions to this memorial.

AMVETS was among the earliest supporters of the concept of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and over the past three years we have provided moral support and funding for that project. Our members have become increasingly concerned over the continuing debate over the location of the flag at the monument and statute, and while we are not experts in the area of artistic interpretation, we have studied the three options before you today, and while options "B" and "C" do have merit,

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we retain a preference for option "A". However, in the interest of bringing the controversy that has raged for a period of time to a conclusion, we would leave the final decision to you and your judgment, and would ask that this decision be an expedient one.

We thank you very much for your time.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Gordon Mansfield.

MR. MANSFIELD: Mr. Chairman, I have a statement which I have given to the reporter, and I also have copies available for the members.

In the interest of time -- I realize you have a lengthy agenda here -- I would like to summarize my points.

First of all, my name is Gordon Mansfield, and I work for the Paralyzed Veterans of America. I am the National Advocacy Program Director. I think if you could describe my job in one word, that word would be "access".

Paralyzed Veterans of America consists of approximately 11,000 members, all of whom have suffered spinal cord injury or dysfunction. A significant number of our members are Vietnam veterans, as I am.

In addition, in our work here in Washington through a Service Program, a Research Program, an Advocacy Program,

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and Legislative Program, we find that we deal with and represent the interest of a considerable number of other disabled persons, along with veterans. A figure used in this City numbers 35 million Americans among us who are disabled, veterans and non-veterans.

I would like to talk to you today on their behalf, specifically on PVA's behalf, but I ask you to consider, also, the Gold Star Mother of a deceased Vietnam veteran whose name appears on that wall and who may be aging and suffering from arthritis and is mobility-impaired. I think we have to take their problems into account.

I don't want to endorse any of these concepts before you, but I do want to point out something that I think you have -- in fact, I know you have to consider when you reach a decision , and I would like to emphasize that the decision you reach here today is going to be carried over and will result in, which I am going to discuss, in what I see as a problem. We in PVA who work on access traditionally run into a problem where we see that artificial barriers are created in development and planning of any structure that is built. In this instance with the VVMF, I am pleased to say I have been able to work with Bob Doubeck, especially, from that organization and the issue as to handicapped access has been

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considered. You can see the walkway there. Also, PVA has handicapped parking which is located to the north of any of these drawings, along Constitution Avenue. What I want to tell you here today is that I think when you make your decision on any of these proposals, you have to consider what is going to happen for handicapped access.

We have heard discussions and suggestions that have been raised by a Board member and also one of the architectural personnel. Let me say right now to me and other handicapped Americans no pathway is mundane--hard surface or not. That may mean whether I go there or don't go there. It is not mundane. Part of the question is are disabled Vietnam veterans and other handicapped individuals going to be able to experience this entire memorial, and again I am talking about the entire memorial, the whole area.

PVA came before you in a previous meeting and explained our position was that we believed it should be a Vietnam Veteran Memorial and shouldn't be split into parts. I also don't believe using the word "additions" is correct. But I would like you to consider the fact that for a person in a wheelchair, considering the fact that there is going to be an inscription on that flag pole, I would like you to consider how do I and others get there to read that inscription, or

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how do I get there to see the service crest for the service in which I served in Vietnam.

In addition to that, we have got experience behind us, which was explained by the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. I don't know if you went down and made a site visit this time, but I am sure you are aware there have been problems with the surface area. Right now you have got two board walkways in there. They are temporary. I understand that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund is working with the Park Service and the Enkomat people in trying to develop a better hard surface, a better surface to replace what is there.

However, what I think you are going to have to consider, considering the number of people that are coming to this memorial, is that when you make the decision on placement, and we have heard that there was talk about hard surface walkways going from one place to the other to be considered in the future, you have to consider it now is what we are saying, and you have to realize where you place that flag pole, where you place the locators, where you place the statute, are going to determine where that walkway goes in the future.

Let me point out right now the handicapped parking is way up here. People are going to have to move from this area. As far as I know, nothing has been considered as far as

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walkways in this area. You mgiht think about that. You have to move via the existing walkways or the newly created walkways all of the way around to this area, number one, to see the locator. And I would like to compliment the VVMF for the fact as of the present date it shows their concern, the fact that they are working on it.

I think the design would be successful, but the flow pattern for handicapped or mobility-impaired person, if the placement is in this area near the flagpole, they will have to come all of the way around. If this is the entrance area, the next problem is how do you get from the locator to the flag pole to see the inscription, through the path to experience the sculpture, to the walkway to see the walls, and I think you have to consider what is going to happen in this part of the ground.

You already know what has happened to what is down there now, based on past experience. You can see the grounds now. It is not working, what they have. They may be able to come up with a solution. You have heard them say they are considering hard surface walkways. What I am saying to you today is consider where the hard surface walkway is going to go in relation to where you are going to place those items today.

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With that, Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Patrick Davis.

MR. DAVIS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Fine Arts Commission, my name is Patrick B. Davis, Jr. I am a practicing architect from Sarasota, Florida, and a member of The American Institute of Architects, the professional association representing this nation's architects, and also I am past president of the Association of Student Chapters of the AIA, the organization representing America's architectural students.

I am also a Vietnam veteran. I served with the U.S. Navy as a 20 millimeter machine gunner aboard a river assault boat operating in the Mekong Delta from July of 1968 to June of 1969. For nearly the entire elven month period my unit was engaged in continuous combat operation, working with and in support of elements of the U.S. Army's Ninth Infantry Division, ARVN, and Regional Forces and Vietnamese marines.

When I returned home, I realized that this was was being fought on two fronts, both Vietnam and the United States. There were no bands to welcome us home -- just stony silence. After we said good-bye to our buddies at the Ton Son Nhut airport, most of us never saw our buddies again or talked about our experiences with anyone. In this country, no one ever

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asked us about our experience. No one wanted to know what we had been through or how we felt. Whenever I brought up the subject, I met silence. To me, the whole country was sick, and no one was more heartsick than America's Vietnam veterans.

The announcement of a national competition for a Vietnam Veterans Memorial was, to me, the first sign that our country was finally recovering. It was the first sign that America was ready at last to deal with the traumatic issues of the war and welcome its veterans home. The selection of a site between two of this nation's most powerful symbols, the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, proved that something new, something hopeful had begun.

I followed the competition closely, and marveled at the awseome simplicity of Ms. Lin's design. I also followed the development of the controversy surrounging the modifications to the design.

I hope that my presence here today as an architect, and as a veteran, at last puts to rest the allegation that the debate over the Vietnam Memorial is a debate between artists and veterans. Nothing could be further from the truth. America's artists and veterans, many of whom are one and the same, are united in our determination to see that there is a memorial that will touch the hearts and inspire the minds of

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all of our countrymen, and the generations who will come after us.

Last October the AIA testified before this Commission. At that time we said our views concerning the proposed additions to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. As you are aware, our former president spoke on behalf of our members and on behalf of the many veterans and parents of Vietnam War veterans who supported preserving the integrity of a truly unique memorial. Time and the personal experience of thousands of Americans have, we feel, vindicated this position.

No other memorial in this City speaks so eloquently and so personally, no other memorial in this City makes the visitor so much a part of its message. When we see our images reflected among those who served this nation, when we reach up to touch the names, it is clear that we have been embraced by the meaning, the message, and the art of this remarkable tribute.

This memorial does not exclude anyone or any thought. It brings all of us together. It begins the healing process intended by its sponsors, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. We are aware, however, that passionate and eloquent arguments have been made by those who urged this Commission to approve the addition of a flagpole and statuary to the memorial site.

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This Commission has given ear to those voices by deciding that the additional elements would not necessarily be disruptive to the experience of the memorial if sensitively located. Indeed, this Commission has indicated that the total experience might well be enhanced. But before this could happen, all of the elements, the statuary, the directory, the flagpole, and the walls, would demand most careful and thoughtful siting. Anything less than maximum care would, as this Commission clearly recognized, result in a memorial that was episodic and disjointed. The various elements would stumble over one another, and this would be tragic.

This Commission has shown all of us the way out of this dilemma. You have done so by recommending last October a solution that would provide visibility for the site: a strong entrance, and a logical progression of design elements that would reinforce, rather than compete with one another.

Regarding the three proposals before you today, Proposals "A", "B" and "C", the AIA finds only Proposals "A" and "C" to satisfy the Commission's October recommendation, a recommendation that received our public support. Of these two proposals, the Institute prefers the siting arrangement as depicted in site plan "C". We do so for a number of reasons.

First, Plan "C" enhances the memorial's visibility

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from the adjacent roadway and surrounding public areas. It, likewise, provides the memorial with a front door. This is important since most visitors to the memorial site will approach it from this direction.

Second, handicapped access to the memorial site is improved by locating the short-term parking and directory off Henry Bacon Drive, near the memorial's entryway. Thus, a dignified entry for a disabled veteran to arrive at the site and become oriented is provided, as spoken for by the gentleman from the PVA.

Thirdly, Plan "C" features more prominently the Hart statue along the walkway to the memorial walls. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, by placing the design elements in a sequential order, for those visiting the memorial, the flag, directories, statute and walls, a more successful composition of the design elements is achieved without any disruption of the existing landscape.

Clearly this proposal allows visitors to the memorial to experience the elements of the site for themselves, as was originally intended: first, this nation's flag, next the image of those who served, and then on to the peaceful area embraced by the two magnificent walls in which the sacrifice of all who served can be contemplated.

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It is important to reiterate that while we prefer site plan "C", we believe that both "A" and "C" respond to your October recommendations. Therefore, we are prepared to support either plan.

We applaud those involved who are moving this project along to completion by allowing the decision process as mandated by Public Law 96-297 to proceed in an orderly manner. We are particularly grateful for what Washington sculptor Frederick Hart has described as the "Solomon-like" recommendations made by this Commission last October. This Commission has shown us the way to begin the healing process in earnest. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has taken us farther along this road today. The AIA is here this afternoon to lend its support to this journey. We urge that this road be taken so that all of us can begin at last to complete this journey that the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has so well begun.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Next would be Stanley Swain, United Vitenam Veterans Organization.

MR. SWAIN: Sorry to hold you up. I was upstairs.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Could you see it upstairs? How does it work?

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MR. SWAIN: It's fine.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Anyone standing in the back, I just want to advise you there is a chance to sit down upstairs and watch it on TV.

Go ahead.

MR. SWAIN: My name is Stanley Swain, and I am a Washington representative of the United Vietnam Veterans Organization. I appear today on behalf of our organization, and of David Christian, our founder. Mr. Christian is one of the most highly decorated veterans of the Vietnam War, and serves, also, as National Adjutant of the Legion of Valor of the U.S.A.

The United Vietnam Veterans Organization was founded in 1981 in order to bring together the many local organizations which Vietnam veterns have formed throughout the country. We held our first convention last summer, and already have over 16,000 members.

First of all we wish to congratulate the men and women of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for their magnificent achievement in building and dedicating the memorial. Special recognition is due to John Wheeler, Jan Scruggs, and Robert Doubeck, the founders and leaders of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. They and their comrades are the ones

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who raised the money and did the work. No one should lose sight of this fact.

Secondly, our praise of the magnificent tribute which VVMF has created should not overlook the significance of the manner in which VVMF achieved its goal; that manner, involving courage, competent management, and expertise in diverse areas such as law, finance, fund-raising, public relations, design and construction, was truly a demonstration of the type of leadership possessed by Vietnam veterans. This leadership will sustain our country as it moves to the end of this century.

Notwithstanding demonstrated competence, the process of establishing the memorial was, above all, characterized by honest dealing and fair play. Contracts were entered into and lived up to. The design competition was not only the largest ever held in this country, but a model of attention to detail and procedure. The context in which the whole memorial has proceeded has been that set out in Public Law 96-297. The VVMF has continuously fulfilled its responsibilities under that law and the process provided therein for the approval of the design has provided an opportunity for all opinions to be heard.

A major element of the positive legacy which Vietnam

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veterans shall leave their country is respect for our country's laws, and in obedience to which we served. With that same respect for law and for the institution which has been created by our society to consider matters of public importance, we are confident that this Commission will select the proposal that is most appropriate and aesthetic, and best honors all those who served in Vietnam.

We have examined the three proposals before you and are pleased to endorse Proposal "A', which is the preference of VVMF.

VVMF has brought this project from idea to realization, and their judgment deserves our deference. We find Proposal "A" to be logical, the best for the needs of the handicapped, and the best treatment for all of the elements which comprise the memorial.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our views.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Are there any other representatives of organizations that would like to speak?

MR. KORIS: Yes, Combat Veterans of Vietnam.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Very good. Come on up. Would you give your name?

MR. KORIS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, my name is Kenneth Koris, Volunteer Services Coordinator with

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the Vietnam Veterans of America.

As a representative of an organization, veterans organization, exclusively devoted to the welfare and interest of the Vietnam veterans, it is indeed my pleasure to be here today. We are pleased to have the opportunity to present our views regarding the proposal, the positioning of the sculpture and placement of the American flag at the site of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

At your meeting last October we testified in support of the addition of the sculpture and flag, which will compliment the quiet dignity that already emanates from the memorial which pays tribute to all who served their country in Vietnam. We were pleased by your ruling accepting these additions.

As an organization with chapters in 35 states, and 14,000 members in all states and territories, we can assure you that the memorial itself has been positively received. The good feelings of brotherhood by and for the veterans has proven the memorial as a catalyst, a long overdue recognition by the country at large for those who wore its uniform.

In light of the magnificent week of November 11, 1982, Vietnam veterans of America urges adoption of the Vietnam Veteran Memorial Fund's preferred proposal, scheme "A", for finalizing the total experience of the memorial site. The

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Fund's judgement and intuition for the idea, design, and placement of the memorial has been proven correct. Its validation is made self-evident by the overwhelming public reaction to the newest addition to the Constitutional Gardens area. We see scheme "A" as giving maximum prominence to the flag and statute, while preserving the quiet dignity of the site.

For some years now those of us in the Vietnam Veterans Organization have labored for formal recognition honoring those who served in Vietnam. Perhaps now that these men and women have been honored, we as a country can begin to address the tangible needs of the Vietnam veterans brought about as a result of their service. For Vietnam veterans of America, this is the essence of and true poetry for the Vietnam Veteran Memorial.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

MR. ATHERTON: There is one other gentleman that has indicated he is representing an organization.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Very good. Come forward.

MR. TURNER: My name is Peter Turner, and I represent the Vietnam Vigil Memorial Society. They are ghe guys out in the cold this winter 24 hours a day.

Unfortunately for you all, I do not have a prepared

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speech, but I would like to make a couple suggestions here that haven't been discussed. Because, I guess, we do spend so much time out there, we have a pretty good idea where people are coming in and out. What has not been discussed is the fact that half of the people coming in are coming in from this side. You would have the perfect entranceway experience with Plan "A", which we totally support. However, you are going to have to do something about the other 45 percent that are coming in, with ten percent coming in this way and the other 45 percent coming in from the Lincoln Memorial. I haven't heard that mentioned before, but you are either going to have to cut this side off or have some sort of embankment and end it there, and have the people come around through there. I will leave that up to the architect. I just note you are going to have a serious entry and exit problem if this is the only side you are focusing on, because, as I mentioned, about half of the people are coming in from the Constitution Avenue side.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: By these numbers then, zero percent come in by the AIA proposal, scheme "C"?

MR. TURNER: If this is scheme "C" -- I don't want to hurt anybody's feelings, but that is not even a consideration for a lot of reasons, and I don't have the expertise to

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go into it, but it is just that I think scheme "C" should not even be given consideration.

Scheme "A", again, as a concerned citizen listening to all of these knowledgeable people, it seems there is a problem with having a flag up at the apex, and that is a problem from an aesthetic standpoint, not from a patriotic standpoint, but from an aesthetic standpoint. It takes away from the memorial itself. I will suggest, however, it is not an either/or situation where the statute is located. If it is there, or in the middle, it would allow the people coming in from this side the opportunity to find out where the memorial is, because right now that seems to be the biggest question on everybody's mind coming in from the side, "where is the memorial". They would not be able to see the flag there. I don't want to get Jack mad here, because he is its biggest fan, but that is impossible to see from the side, but if you had the sculpture and flag there, I would suggest you also put a flag or something to let people know the fact it is there, or some entryway on this side.

I am not sure I am being very clear.

MR. NETSCH: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question, since we have one man here with some statistics from actual participation? Do you believe that if a pathway were devised

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that generally directed most of the people to enter one way that they would do it? In other words, if they were coming from Constitution Avenue, if there was a kind of sweeping path that joined the path that is shown on all of these diagrams, would they swing around and come in if the flag were visible?

MR. TURNER: Again I think what you are saying -- There is a serious landscaping situation because people walk in straight lines. Someone mentioned the "campus syndrome". Unless you have a serious way of channeling people either that way around or this way around, people will continue to go in from the side, and again I am not advocating an either/or situation, but I think if you go entirely with Plan "A", you are not creating the ideal experience that we are all proposing. You are assuming that everybody is going to be coming in this way when, in fact, as I mentioned, about 45 percent come in from this way and 10 percent from the Mall area, and about 45 percent from the other area.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much. This, of course, describes the present experience, before the paths have been changed and built, before a flag would have been put in to guide the people where to come from, and before the tour busses were rerouted and scheduled to let people off, so

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I think these figures are useful, but they may not describe the eventual condition after following designs as presented.

Any other organization that would like to speak?

(No response)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Milt Copulos.

MR. COPULOS: Mr. Chairman, it is good to see you all again. I believe it was last October 13 when we last had an opportunity to chat.

I would like to begin by saying that all of us here, I think, in particular should recognize the very special thing that has been achieved, regardless of the ultimate outcome. As I told you last time we met, I was just a common soldier, a lot like Jan Scruggs, and I find it to be an extraordinary event that Jan has been able to bring his dream to fruition, and I think it is important to make clear that any disagreements we may have are disagreements over what are very important issues, but disagreements, I think, that are honest.

Frankly, it has been 16 months since I first became involved in this, and I can understand how Jan is as weary as I am of it, or I could understand Jan as being more weary and it has been a much longer time for him.

Be that as it may, as some of us have had last rites five times, we don't quit easy. Quite honestly, I believe

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that the matter that we are here discu-sing today is one of import that will last through future generations, and it cannot be readily dismissed, and that is one of the concerns that I have.

When we came to you last time, on October 13, there was a parade of veteran organizations. Every single veterans organization in the United States, without exception, the Gold Star Mothers, members of the Congress, administration officials, all endorsed a single concept, which has been achieved through painful compromise, and which I personally had worked on for some six months, as one of four people on the sculpture selection panel. We felt that we had reached something which was at once aesthetically pleasing and which met the spirit and letter of what we all worked so hard to achieve, because underlying all of this is our principal goal, to reconcile the nation and its Vietnam veterans.

I can only say that I was very surprised, to say the least, when after having accepted the basic elements that we felt were needed to bring this experience to completion, the question of siting was not agreed to, as well, because siting is actually as important, ultimately, as the actual elements themselves. You yourselves have said that siting changes the tone of the memorial, and that is the key, that is the issue,

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the tone of the memorial, but those of us on the sculpture selection panel had spent six months walking the site and, therefore, we were very much understanding how difficult it is to locate these things aesthetically. We went a step beyond. We had to stop and say, look, could we be wrong, could our decision be wrong, what would other people, people who are not so close to this that they can't separate their involvement with the process from the ultimate goal of the process, what would they think. How could we find out?

Obviously, we didn't have the resources to poll every Vietnam veteran in the United States, and, in fact, no really rigorous attempts have been made to poll on the specific question of location, as proposed before your Commission. There had been a pre-test of a poll that indicated certain things, and some other informal polls, but nothing of scientific rigors that followed all of the research techniques, and so on. We, therefore, assembled a group of college volunteers and made an effort to try to ascertain what the people visiting the memorial during the dedication ceremonies felt. We did this for a number of reasons:

First, this was as close to a national sample as you will ever assemble at one point at the memorial. Veterans from every state of the union were present.

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Secondly, the people polled actually were physically on the site, had seen the existing walls and seen the model of the sculpture, and, in all likelihood, had had an opportunity to get some notion of what the relative placement would mean, and, finally, they would be people who are deeply interested in the memorial, people who had come, sometimes, tens of thousand of miles -- there was one group from the Pacific Islands -- to participate in this, and it was a very cold day that day, very wet, and yet the spirits were high.

I find myself constantly thinking of one individual who served with the 125th Infantry Division, the same unit I served with, and the emotions welling up within him as the crowd sand "The Star Spangled Banner" at one point during the ceremony, and I could not help thinking of how he and others with whom we fought, whose names are on that wall, would want to see this was done as proper as it possibly could be done, in the best possible fashion, and that is why I am here today.

I want to first share with you some of the principal results of the poll we took. I should add we used a standard survey research technique as established for polling by Michigan Survey Research Center, and later refined by CBS News. We had our questionnaires reviewed and, also, and this is impor-

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tant in polling, the results on similar questions tend to check with previous polls which had been taken, albeit not scientifically, but generally if your results are at great odds with someone else's results, that tends to indicate something is wrong.

On the question of whether the flag should be prominently placed, as an integral part of the memorial -- I should note that the sample was 530 people that served in Vietnam -- 85.9 percent of the sample and 94.2 percent of the Vietnam veterans said it should be prominently placed.

As to the question of whether there should be an inscription with reference to what the Vietnam veterans fought for, and I will provide you with copies of this, 84.7 percent of the Vietnam veterans and 78.2 percent of the survey sample overall agreed.

In terms of the question of what their impression of the wall by itself is, there was no unanimity; that is to say, their impression of the wall without the flag and statute. The range of opinions, and I should say most people there were already assuming the flag would be added, so this does color their answer, but that ranged, from among veterans, 54 percent strongly unfavorable and 8.3 percent somewhat unfavorable, leaving you with almost two-thirds non-veterans, people

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who had neither served in Vietnam or the military at all, and it ranged from 57.1 strongly favorable to 16.4 percent somewhat favorable, and the overall sample found the wall, without the addition of the flag and statute, lacking.

I think that the empirical evidence from people visiting the site also indicates the need for having a flag and statute. Everyone who goes to that site, virtually without exception, -- it is amazing -- brings something. You see them bringing flags, you see little bits of scraps of newspapers containing obituaries of the name of the fallen on the wall. You see people bringing flags.

I think many of you may have seen the news film of the four marines who, shall we say, liberated a flag during the dedication ceremony and sat there in a vigil throughout the dedication with that flag at the juncture of the walls.

The final thing we asked in our survey was the question regarding placement. We had three scale models drawn on our survey, but, beyond that, the people were physically on the site and could see what these options meant. One, which I am afraid is going to confuse you a little bit because we used a little different options -- our option "A" corresponds roughly to your option "B"; our option "C" corresponds roughly to your option "A", and our option "B" would correspond

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roughly to your option "C". What we found was that among the veterans the option "B", among the Vietnam veterans, was selected by 74.1 percent of the group, among those who served in Vietnam, when given that choice. Among the same group, 12.8 percent selected what would be option "A".

Of the group overall, 69 percent selected option "B" and 16.3 percent selected option "A".

I think it is important to recognize something here. There is no question the overwhelming majority of Vietnam Veterans feel strongly, and they are glad just to see a memorial built, whatever it looks like, but given their preference, the overwhelming majority, not only of Vietnam veterans, but of citizens of the United States, I think it is safer to say, want that flag prominently displayed, and, moreover, the overwhelming majority, when given the choice, when allowed to have an option or some input into the decision, would choose option "B".

Now, Mr. Chairman, I humbly submit that, in keeping with what was said a little earlier by the fellow with the Vigil Committee, people are not going to be channeled by paths. I have walked that site many, many times, and spent a lot of time looking at that very location they are talking about for the entryway. The simple fact is people will be coming from

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Constitution Avenue and from the sides, and in order for them to be able to experience the totality of the memorial, which is what we all readly want, in order for them to have the opportunity for the paralyzed veterans to have the opportunity to see this all at once, and I have spent time in a wheel-chair and I understand how difficult it is to come up a four degree incline and then back down again, so it would be best to go with Option "B".

With that, if you have any questions, I will be happy to answer them, andI will also give you a copy of the poll.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Other individuals?

We have Harry Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I thank you for the opportunity to testify on the matter of symbolish and aesthetics of the issue before you.

I am presently Dean and a professor for urban design at the Howard University School of Architecture and Planning. I hold degrees in architecture and planning and urban design from the Howard University, the graduate School of Design at Howard University.

Equally important for purposes of my testimony, I am a combat veteran of the war in Vietnam. I received an

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ROTC commission in July, 1966, and after graduating from the Engineers Officer's basic course in the U.S. Army's Ranger School, I volunteered for duty in Vietnam, and was there from April, '68 until I was wounded the following June. I was platoon leader in the Army Engineer Patrol Batallion, 1st Division, and operated in the area between Xuan Loc and Loc Ninh. I received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart medals for my service.

The proposal "A" to integrate the entry plaza elements consisting of a sculpture and flag staff in a grove on the site is at once both aesthetically desirable and a patriotic symbol of very much strength. This solution maintains the integrity of the memorial and its environment, while estab-lsihing another important precinct that provides the essential images that are associated with testaments to the sacrifice that the nation makes in a time of war. The relationship of the proposed entry plaza to the meadow is an appropriate ante-cedent to entering the immediate site of the memorial. This encounter with familiar artifacts is a fitting introduction to the more emotional and personal experience of the walls. The majesty of the walls and overwhelming tribute that they represent cannot be understated and it should not be brought into conflict with other symbolism. Every entree and the

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sequence of approach to and movement past the wall is a highly individualized, spiritual, visual, and tactical experience. The magnetism of the mirror-like surfaces, ever changing with one's position in the light of day, is a timeless statement that deserves its own unencumbered domain.

I acknowledge and respect the thinking of those who felt that a specific patriotic symbol and realistic interpretive elements were needed. I think the sculpture is a handsome work of art. However, were it to be placed before the walls, it would impose an imagery upon the visitor's experience and weaken the impact of the reflective planes. The sculpture deserves its own special place, and will receive that environment under the canopy of the trees.

I can also respect the thinking of those who would locate the flag on top of the walls, near the vortex, as a way of affirming patriotic values. Yet the focus for the visitor is the walls and his/her personal association therewith. A flag flying far overhead would have little positive impact. From an aesthetic point of view, the flag staff would be an intrusion into the tranquil horizontal space of the meadow and the awe-inspiring quality of the walls. The actual relationship of the walls and the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, and the shear density of names is, in my opinion, a

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truly patriotic statement that stands on its merits and speaks eloquently to the enormity of the effort and sacrifice of all who served.

I thank you for this opportunity.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is getting on. We have a long agenda ahead of us. I have a few more people who have submitted these. Naturally we are here to hear various opinions. Is there anyone who has something to say that has not been said before, who feels that what they have to contribute is a real contribution to the discussion and deliberations.

MR. ~~GROWER~~ Brewer: Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I will be brief.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Give your name for the record.

MR. GROWER: My name is Scott Grower, and I am a Vietnam veteran. I have previously spoken before you. I am here to speak briefly in strong support of Proposal "B"; specifically the location of the flag at the apex, along with the statute, which was the consensus of the compromise meeting in March of '82, chaired by Senator Warner.

I think, to be specific in terms of how my views differ, but to add to others, for those who were present during the parade and dedication the visibility of the American

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flag was just unmistakable, and visits to the site since then show the numerous flags placed on the apex or at various points along the walls, along with photographs, flowers. I feel there is a limit on just how much individuals can place there, in view of the need of the Park Service to maintain tidiness of the memorial grounds. I, therefore, feel that one single centrally located flag, along with the statute at the very apex of the memorial, centrally located, not as an addition, but as an integral part of the memorial, will be in the best interest of all, and visible to all.

I don't feel there is any single central entranceway. Perhaps there would be, but only in the winter, as tour busses discharge passengers on Henry Bacon Drive and they enter what is considered the entranceway. Otherwise the wall is frequented by thousands of people who will enter and approach from all directions.

I feel, to restate what has previously been stated, the compromise meeting of March, '82 was a very significant event, and I think pages 4, 5, and 6 list the people present, who traveled from as far as California, Texas, and we all left feeling that that was the agreement under which the memorial would proceed, and a great deal of progress has been made since that time by virtue of the agreement reached. Had

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we not agreed and permitted construction, I don't think progress would have been made. I can only restate, then, and submit the American flag should be an integral part, located at the apex, as agreed, and the statute along with it, and that there is no single entranceway, in spite of various opinions, and foilage during the summer will, in fact, hide the flag, should Proposal "C" be agreed upon.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any others who have submitted one of these?

MR. BUTERA: I submitted one of those, and I also have copies of my statement. I will try to summarize it, in light of the hour.

My name is James J. Butera. I am pleased to have this opportunity to testify before you today on the subject of the proposed modification to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. This is actually a return engagement for me, since I testified at the October 13 hearing.

What I would like to reiterate, I think, different than what has been said thus far is the same thing I said in October, and that is it is my view this Commission should reject in toto all of the proposed suggested modifications to this memorial, whether a flag, a statute, an inscription, or

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whatever. I recognize that is not what we are going to do today. We are going to discuss where we might best locate these particular modifications, but I think it is highly beneficial that we do have this hearing, because we also need to correct the widespread misinterpretations that were created as a result of that first hearing. Anyone at that hearing or viewing it on television or reading about it in the newspapers would have thought it was only academic -- architects and other artistic purists who were concerned about what had happened to the original winning design. One would have thought only the veterans and all of the veteran groups were dissatisfied with the design that Ms. Lin submitted. I would like to emphasize as clearly as I possibly can this time around that nothing could be further from the case.

I am an attorney, now engaged in banking and legislative law, and vice president of the National Association of Mutual Savings Bank. During the years of '60-69 I was an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. I retired at the rank of captain. I served two combat tours in three years in Vietnam, and during that time was awarded, in addition to various campaign medals and commendations, a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for wounds received in action. I recite this simply because I believe it qualifies me to dispute the claims of those who

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would presume to speak for all veterans in saying that the present design does not constitute a worthy tribute to those who fought the war.

In the last time before the Commission I suggested that all of these modifications be rejected. I thought that was compelled by logic and fiarness. I have been involved with this memorial since '79, and assisted in fund-raising efforts. I know firsthand that the design competition was fairly administered. It was free and open, and available to everyone, and I think was won by Ms. Lin, who I am shocked to see is not here today. Logic and fairness have not prevailed, so we must discuss the specifics of this political compromise.

On the subject of the flag, we heard a lot about the flag. I heard the gentleman the last time make an eloquent plea: he wants that flag, he fought for it, he wants it right in the center of the memorial. That is an over-simplification, and, while well-meaning, it dominates so much of the controversy over this memorial. We didn't fight for the flag, but for the ideals that flag represents, and one of those ideals is that individual Americans are permitted, are entitled to have the fruits and benefits of their labors and abilities. Ms. Lin won the competition on her artistic abilities, and it

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is unfair, if not borderong on unethical, for individuals to try to take that away from her now or try to diminish her prize to any degree whatsoever. I will have to ask these individuals, and they are here today, if this type of behavior, this type of campaign, is consistent with their concept and their understanding of American ideals of justice and fairness.

This campaign has reached the point, as the members of this Commission are well aware, where legislation has been introduced in Congress, and actually passed through one house, that would mandate that the flag and statute be made an integral part of the memorial. Now I wouldn't presume to advise experts on this Commission on architectural and aesthetic matters, but legislation is something I know about, having been for ten years now a registered lobbyist on behalf of a number of financial institutions, and I have to state categorically in those ten years I have never seen nor heard of a greater perversion of the legislative process than this particular campaign. Members of Congress, and certainly those of us who function as legislative advocates, aren't always described in admired terms, but I take great pride in the fact that the Congress as a whole had the good judgment to reject this gross abuse of political power. The prospects of over-

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zealous patriots, financed by Texas millionaires, waging a national campaign against a 21 year-old architectural student would be comical if it weren't for the fact it is succeeding before our very eyes.

Let me turn to the subject of the memorial itself. I have yet to talk to any person who has visited that site and failed to be extremely moved by the experience. This is a credit not just to the design of Ms. Lin, but also to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, which decided in advance upon the central featuresof the design, including, of course, the individual inscriptions of those who died in the war. Years of planning and work by Jan Scruggs and Bob Doubeck, and others, that went into making the memorial a reality should not be usurped by individuals seeking to capitalize on the 11th hour, and, believe me, 16 months working on this project is the 11th hour, should not be usurped by individuals seeking to capitalize on the initiatives and successful endeavors of others.

To conclude -- and you will find attached to my statement a copy of reflections on the memorial, visited by a friend of mine, that I thought both interesting and informative, who thinks, also, very highly of the memorial, a highly decorated Marine Corps veteran -- let me just conclude by

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saying to the members of the Commission once again, if we do have to accept these modifications, please do so in the least obtrusive manner as possible. This would certainly include rejecting out of hand the idea of putting the flag and statute well within and prominently displayed on the memorial itself. To those who insist on attempting to use this memorial to make a political statement, I would conclude by noting that while this memorial is certainly for all Americans, to a larger extent it is for those who fought the war. It is primarily a testament to those who died. These 57,000 individuals, they are not conservatives, they are not liberals, they weren't Republicans or Democrats, they weren't for the war, they weren't against the war, they were just in the war. Their only political statement was to answer their country's call, when so many others walked away. I think that is a sufficient statement in and of itself, and we ought to leave well enough alone.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any others?

MR. SILVER: I would like to think we saved the last for the best or the best for last, but I am not sure of that. I am Steven M. Silver, and I thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund's proposal, Proposal "A". I am a psychologist for the United

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States Veterans Administration, and a specialist in so-called veteran stress syndrome. I hold a bachelor and master degree in counseling and a doctor's in psychology. I am a combat veteran of the Vietnam War, having served as an officer in the Marine Corps, in fighter squadrons 115 and 122, in 1969 and 1970 in Vietnam. I flew 316 combat missions.

One of my younger brothers is an Army combat veteran of Vietnam. Our father, a Navy pilot, visited Vietnam frequently during his career. Together the three of us are familiar with as wide a cross-section of the names that are carved on the memorial granite as the heart can endure.

I speak to you today, then, as a published historian of Vietnam, and, perhaps most importantly, as a psychologist working with Vietnam veterans and thier families since 1972. It is virtually a cliche to state the American people have tried to repress the memory of the Vietnam War. It is also well understood that our people, while in their pain and trauma, tried to ignore reminders of the war, including the most obvious reminder, our Vietnam veterans. We are beginning to see an end to this repression. Our gathering here is an example. As repression ends, the very thoughts and feelings come boiling, sometimes exploding, to the surface. Whether taking place at the individual or national level, such surfacing can be painful, terrifying, depleting joys or catharsis.

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Most of all, it is necessary. That the memorial helps to solve this problem was demonstrated to me through several events. One of these was my own experience the first morning I walked in front of those polished black slabs to find my friends' names. Another was the reaction of the Vietnam veterans from our program that came down to the dedication. Having endured some of the more severe traumas of the war, and especially the profound after-effects, the memorial served to elicit much buried within them. Our treatment staff, impressed with the results, now regularly brings new groups of Vietnam veterans to view the memorial as a way to help them find their pasts and presents, to help them work out their torments.

The memorial is effective because it does not impose a concept on the viewer, like a Rorschach inkblot test. It provides the minimum amount of structure. The individual projects on to it her or his own feelings, many of which may have been hidden from personal awareness. The memorial is an assembly vessel into which the viewer pours whatever it is he or she carries. The less specific the structure, the easier and fuller an accord. This means that the memorial serves as an emotional lightning rod, and all those associated with it had best be prepared to endure the white hot anger after the

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storm of grief. This storm has been built a long time, and I think today makes that paragraph even more relevant.

The memorial structure is sufficient, the names printed -- no denying, no hiding. More specificity would only weaken the meditative quality, as understood by western psychology and Zen, and would lessen the great opportunity to heal.

Perhaps an example would clarify the point, and I make this point with all respect, as a Marine, a former Marine. The Marine Corps memorial based on the flag-raising on Mt. Suribachi in World War II is heroic, glorious, and very powerful, and very incomplete. In capturing the pride of the Corps, the place of glory has been lost. The World War II Marines dominate the other memorial, making it easy to overlook the other battlefields. Further, the figures tend to focus the viewer's attention on the infantry. Other marines, aviators, artillerymen, and women, are omitted. This is not to say the memorial was designed to be limited or exclusionary. The decision was to emphasize a particular part of the Marine Corps experience. This act of specificity leaves little room for much else.

The Vietnam memorial does not try to emphasize one aspect of the experience over another. There is no escaping

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what it is about. Those magnificent names guarantee that. There is no limiting or restricting of the viewer's emotional response. To impose figures in front or on top of the Vietnam memorial would do exactly that. On the other hand, to encounter the figures of the three infantrymen while coming to the memorial could be, for some, an addition to the experience and could meet the wishes of those who feel they need specificity. To place them at the apex of the memorial or in the open field before it would lessen the impact of the walls, and would be too specific.

Please recall that not all Vietnam veterans were infantrymen, nor were they all men. As an historian, I find it particularly appropriate these three warriors would be on the path from Lincoln's memorial. Of all of our national leaders, that most compassionate man undoubtedly would have the greatest understanding of the sacrifice made by our nation's newest warriors, and the greatest understanding of the torments of our national fabric which the devices of war make. The symbol of soldiers serving as a link between the Lincoln Memorial and ours is clear in our nation's life.

Finally, let me say to the mothers and sisters of Vietnam veterans, the family members, the issue swirls around the memorial that by its openness the memorial may help us

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all come home a bit more healed, and by "all", I mean all Americans, for we all, in a very profound way, are Vitenam veterans. The awful agony endured by our families in some ways surpasses our own. The long heartfeld memory of all mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, and especially those that waited forever, gives all of us, a most self-critical nation, the title of Vietnam veterans. Let then the memorial be as open as possible for all of our experience, so we all might heal a little more and heal together. This is why I support Proposal "A".

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank vou very much.

Anyone else?

MR. BERG: Mr. Chairman, at the risk of either having no audience or an audience that is already stoned, I will be as brief as I can.

I have asked that a letter I wrote to The Washington Post be passed around to you.

My name is Christian Berg, as the letter states. I am a practicing lawyer in Washington, and a Vietnam veteran of three combat tours in Vietnam. I was there from late '63 to early '66.

I would draw your attention to the second, third, and

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fourth paragraphs. They seem to be, to me, an eloquent footnote to an eloquent statement from the gentleman who just preceded me.

I don't favor any particular proposal. As a matter of fact, I could say I agree with everything that has been said here today. But I think that what I say in my letter transcends the political and emotional rhetorical debate that you have been subjected to all of these months, and especially this morning. The fundamental problem for those of us who experienced the war, especially this war, is that the experience is personal. It is highly personal, and in this war there has been no opportunity to bring it out of what is essentially a personal weight of enormous impact on our lives.

What I describe seeing at this memorial has recurred a dozen times since the first time I have been there, since they took down the fence.

I will tell you a story, if I am able to emotionally. A friend of mine and I encountered each other the morning the fence came down. He is a man in his late 50's, a veteran since the Second World War, a career military officer, probably the archetype of a saber-rattling warrior. I encountered him shortly after dawn the morning the fence came down, walking the path. We hadn't seen each other in about ten years.

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He came up to me, and we recognized each other, and there was a good deal of "how are you; where have you been, what has been happening", and he turned and he looked at that wall and he put his hands on it and he started to cry.

I suggest to you that you need not have the wisdom of a Solomon in your decision, and I suggest to you that you don't bleed the baby, and I suggest to you that that single experience is reflected in the experience of thousands of people who go through that monument every day, whether they were there or not there, and that has to be preserved, and whether there be a flag or a statute really is beside the point. The political debate is beside the point. The debate among experts or amateurs as to artistic merit or political necessity is really beside the point. That is a memorial not only to those of us who suffered and who continue to suffer, that is a place in which the rancor that you have heard this morning finds resolution, and I support no proposel in particular; I simply ask that you keep in your minds the impact that it has now. It works, it does what it is supposed to do, and I hope that for the generations who come later, who did not understand Vietnam, who will never comprehend what those of us who lived here during that time went through, that it will continue to provide the same sort of experience, the

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same sort of human reconciliation which is so desparately needed and which has been so lacking in the last two hours of this hearing.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

MR. BENDER: Could I have 60 seconds, literally? I am John Bender, one of the volunteers you have heard described today. I put in about 120 hours at the Memorial, and I have just one thing to tell you; that is, I always receive two questions. The first question is how do I find the name, and that one I can answer. The second question is where did the statute go, and based on what I read in the paper, I am telling the people there are two plans, and almost without exception, and I have talked to hundreds of people -- in 120 hours you see a lot of people -- and, almost without exception, everyone of these people, when I describe the possibility of your plan where you have the entryway and the statute up towards the Lincoln Memorial, almost without exception the response is "thank God. That is where we want it, that is where it has to go, I don't have to write my congressman if it goes there", and so forth.

That is all I have to say.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you.

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MR. SCRUGGS: Just a brief statement from me. I am Jan Scruggs, the president of the National Vietnam Memorial Fund, whose fate it has been to guide this project for three years, and it has been a certain amount of a challenge, and fun at times, but I am here to discuss the poll that was presented earlier. We have had this so-called poll professionally evaluated by polling consultants, and it has been found to be very seriously flawed. I would myself like to submit the professional evaluation made of the poll and mention a representative of the polling consulting firm is here today, Mr. Richard Lobb, who is standing here. He is a man with many years of experience in literally designing and evaluating scientific polls, polls that hold up to scientific scrutiny.

One cannot state that a unscientific random sample of veterans, even those attending the dedication ceremony that were interviewed, accurately reflects the view of veterans. Because of the serious scientific and methodological problems, we can only view this as a very haphazard straw poll.

Further, the very rough, small drawing on the questionnaire did such an inadequate job of depicting the various alternatives that it would be impossible for a respondent standing in a crowd of 150,000 persons intelligently to decipher the options presented to them. I will forward to the

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Commission the actual artist's conceptions and the drawings which you will find quite humorous.

Perhaps most important, Mr. Chairman, is the fact that the questionnaire completely left out the major options that we are presenting here today, that of a handsome, harmonious, integrated entrance plaza to the memorial, which has obvious advantages for handicapped veterans and is not a separate memorial -- it is an integral part of the Vietnam Memorial. We feel strongly, as does our architect of record, that it does enhance the memorial.

No attempt was made, also, by the sponsors of this survey to gauge a reaction to this option, so the choices cannot be said to have been fair. In view of these facts, it is not surprising that 74 percent of the respondents chose the option that the survey sponsor favored. We cannot view this as a coincident. This survey is a fine example of how to put together a survey with pre-selected results, and we very much resent the fact that our dedication ceremony, the most historical event ever for Vietnam veterans, was used for such purposes. We think this is terrible. One thing good can be said about the survey: It is evident that Vietnam veterans do, indeed, desire to see their memorial completed with their national flag and with the sculpture that Mr. Hart designed.

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We are pleased to have the support of the veteran organizations that represent many millions of veterans support the concept of the entrance plaza. I, of course, fail to see why polls should enter into this equation at all, quite frankly, but probably the best poll are the words spoken today by the volunteer who spent so many hours at the site directing people to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the reaction of many millions or the million-plus visitors who have already seen it, have come to it, and they think it works, that it is good. And with regard to polls, I would say that I have done my own little informal poll, and I think there is a consensus among Vietnam veterans that it is time to end this debate and it is time to complete this memorial and to do so with dignity, and I guess the only way to summarize my informal poll is by five or six words, which is that this baloney has gone on long enough.

Thank you very much.

MR. DOUBECK: Mr. Chairman, literally 15 seconds. There has been reference made to the compromise agreement. We wish to enter into the record a statement entitled "Statement of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Regarding Compromise Agreement", December 14, 1982, which outlines what we did and what we did not agree to in order to get the memorial built.

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A copy of this is in all press kits.

Briefly, our agreement was to propose these solutions. We fulfilled our agreement to the letter, and then some. We made no guarantee on the location. We made our best effort to get them approved by this Commission in October, and with that we fulfilled the totality of our agreement.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Thank you very much.

All right. Members of the Commission, I think we should have a chance to deliberate.

The agenda item, as I understand it, is to react to the three proposals before us, as to the location of the sculpture and flag staff additions to the Vietnam Veterans memorial. It is a site plan review. It does not include detailing as to surface treatment and so forth. The subject of lighting is not involved, and it is purely a question to complete the process that was begun at the October meeting and in which this Commission wholeheartedly and unanimously approved the idea of including these two additional elements. It is really three elements when one recognizes that the flag pole base is the vehicle that will bear the proposed inscription. So that is what is before us, and we have three options here, labeled "A", "B" and "C" on the graphics on the wall.

MR. CHASE: Could I ask one question? Since the

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agenda mades no reference to the directory, is it true, then, that you do not want that taken into consideration?

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Let's have a separate discussion on that. Let's do this agenda item first. We are delighted to review the directory, and there may be other issues we want to discuss.

MR. STONE: May I make a motion, Mr. Chairman? I think we have deliberated on this a number of hours; we have conducted a number of site inspections, and I think I would like to make a motion that alternative "A" be considered as the preferred plan site of the Commission of Fine Arts.

MR. CHASE: I will second it.

MR. NOVAK: Second.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any discussion?

I might, for purposes of the record, explain a little about what my own thinking is, and then we will see whether this would represent a consensus of the Commission.

My own view is that scheme "A" is the preferred of the three schemes, although I think that there are things to be said in each of the other cases. The problem is trying to visualize what it will feel like eventually, and we operate in the design world with various shorthand techniques, one of which is a plan, another is a model, both of which can

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be extremely misleading.

The plan for option "B", for example, has, in purely aesthetic terms, a certain asymmetry and appeal to it because the flag pole and the sculpture have lined up with the apex of the footprint of the memorial wall. This, for the record, I think should be pointed out is a departure from the proposal of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund and the Department of Interior at the October meeting, when, as I recall, these elements were in slightly different positions. They have become more regularized now and have the logic of axial siting to them. However, one must consider that in context. First of all, these elements will, presumably, hardly ever, if not never, be approached in an axial way. The greatest density of trees defends an approach from the axis from the south. One cannot see the wall if one approaches it from the north. Therefore, they will always be seen in parallax, and as one enters from either the west or the east, they will not seem to line up with the apex of the wall, and so whatever symmetry and aesthetic quality that plan might have, that plan is simply not going to work in actuality.

The second question is that of the vertical experience, and this is where models can be very distorting. If you come down the wall as the path that has been put in would

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lead one to reading the names, and coming to the apex where its inscription is, and looks up, the sight-lines for the flag pole in the position of Plan "B" would be greatly cut off and one would, in a sense, be doing a disservice to the experience of the flag and its pole by lopping it off at the bottom.

Furthermore, a part of the function of the flag is to provide a vehicle for the inscription, and if you think of the route, particularly of the handicapped, but also of any normal individual for coming down to read the inscriptions and experience the memorial, it would be asking him or her to make a tremendous detour to go all of the way around and go over to the base of the flag pole, having nothing to give an indication there is an inscription there, I would think the inscription would be largely overlooked by the visitors. I find the inscription very moving. I think it is a solution that puts it right in the path of the visitor, which is a better solution.

Finally, as to the sculpture, I have had, personally, a certain amount of experience in placing sculptures. There was one time when there was a White House exhibition of sculpture and I was put in charge of placing it on the White House lawn, and my first impulse was to give this sculpture the maximum impact, and except for where the helicopter had to come down, I

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had pretty free hand, and I found that the first cutout of putting the pieces in the middle of the grass was the least successful, and as we worked at it, we began to move the sculpture more and more into scale-giving context, with most of it going into the Rose Garden, where there were small scale trees around it, architecture around it, and things that brought it down to human scale, and, by that definition, made the sculpture seem much bigger and much more powerful, and, in many ways, the great disservice that could be done to the Vietnam veterans represented by that sculpture is to have their portrayal out in the midst of a large large green yard, with no scale-giving element close to them, and where they would be put in kind of opposition to a wall, which will knock them out. That wall is, in total length, almost as tall as the Washington Monument is high. Its power has been attested to today. It is an extraordinarily strong form, and three anamorphic sculptures eight feet tall, and I don't care how tall they could be inflated to, don't stand a chance visually up against a memorial of that power, and so they will lose and it will be, I think, a sad thing.

Therefore, Scheme "A", which puts the sculpture into a coppice, which is hard to visualize now because it doesn't exist -- the landscape architect has very imaginatively created

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a very special precinct for it -- will be in a position where it not only will have these scale-giving elements, but it will be the foreground of an experience of approach to the monument which will be that of an enormous number of visitors because as people come from the Lincoln Memorial and as the tourmobile routes are changed and as the paths would be changed, this would be the front door, the major entrance, the overture, the first impression, and would have, I think, greatly increased and improved the impact.

As to the flag, putting it at the juncture of the path routes would give it a focal point that, to me, would give it maximal prominence. It would be framed by trees, and I have walked to that site, too, and visualized that you will see it beautifully from the wall as you go down to it. It will be very much in evidence, and yet it will be a rallying point to provide exactly the kind of entrance that is not yet provided in the memorial precinct. By grouping them that close together, these two elements, plus the directories, which will all be in the same precinct, they tend to reinforce each other and take advantage of their proximity as a counterfoil to the scale and weight of the existing wall.

One should recognize that the proposal "A" position for the sculpture brings it closer to the wall in terms of

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footage than proposal "B" does, so that all that we have been reading about the idea that somehow there is a proposal to take this sculpture and flag and move it -- I think the phrase is usually "half way to the Lincoln Memorial", is simply not justified.

The Commission, I think, should now take a vote as to which of these three they would approve of and make any further comments or footnotes that they feel appropriate.

MR. NETSCH: I think our motion, obviously, is in agreement with what you have said. I do only want to add that upon the completion of this motion that the architect and planners and landscape architect take into serious consideration those issues of access to the disabled and the issue of access on the weather, so that we will not have recriminations later on on the basis of technicalities for what I think is the proper decision.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Do you want to call for the question?

All in favor of scheme "A", aye?

(Chorus of ayes)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Any opposed?

(No response)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Then it is carried.

Before we leave this, I think there are a couple small issues we should probably face. We recognize this is a site

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decision and doesn't get into some of the detailing of the access, as Mr. Netsch said. I think it would be sad, personally, but this can be discussed when we have designs to review, to just pave the whole thing over and lose the sense of landscape which is there, and there may be, if practicality dictates, there may be some middle ground in which bits of granite block could be set in among grass and give you enough drainage to give you a solid surface without seeming to be paving it over.

Another aspect I think that should be reviewed is the question of lighting, if any. Is any proposed?

MR. COOPER: Could I speak to this?

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yes.

MR. COOPER: We retained Claude Angle, who did the original design for Constitution Gardens, and he has been out of the country or we would have had an answer for you today. We are meeting the end of the week to go over and see. Claude is very concerned about trying to push any light up against the mirrored surface, because all you would be doing is looking right into light, and his preliminary thought is to try to enhance the ambient lighting off of the poles around the perimeter, and how we do that, I just don't know.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: As I remember previous discussions

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of this, we had quite a bit of focus on the potential hazard of this design for nighttime use, and that is because the power of design is involved with reading the inscriptions. It is perhaps a daytime memorial, and maybe we should face that and not try to make some kind of Coney Island night experience out of it, which always would involve high mast light fixtures, which are very difficult. So that is up to, obviously, the proponents of the design, but we would look very carefully at any lighting fixtures that were introduced all of a sudden because they present a daytime minus.

One of the reasons I bring this up now is that, although the text of the inscription is not really in our purview, I do note that the inscription for the base of the flag pole does include the phrase "shall be continuously displayed". As I understand it, it is against protocol to keep the American flag flying at night unless it be specifically lit.

MR. COOPER: Or excepted by law. You can fly it as long as there is a ruling that it has been excepted from having to be illuminated.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: An exception made, but that requires special legislation?

MR. COOPER: Yes.

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CHAIRMAN BROWN: Then it would be possible, and it could be very moving to have it there. I think if you start getting into a kind of advertising spotlighting ethos there you are then going to be saying that this monument is open at night and then you are going to be running the risk of the people tripping over the wall or falling off it or not being able to read the names. It seems to me that this should be worked out before you are locked into a wording in an inscription that somehow can't be matched.

MR. NOVAK: I would like to add an observation that doesn't even go to the aesthetics, but as we sat on this matter over the last months or years, or however long it has been, it is an interesting evolution in the process itself. The memorial was intended from the outset as a means of reconciliation, and the testimony of many of the people today, the observations of those who have gone to the memorial, testifies that objective has been substantially achieved, but another testimony, too, comes out of the process that we had here ourselves, the stridency of the combatants to the question of whether or not the memorial as conceived by Maya Lin was appropriate and fitting and would do honor to the Vietnam veterans, the compromise, which is the additional elements that were added, and then the struggle over the appropriate site. I think that

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today there was, although people talked about the greater permissiveness, as I listened I think the overwhelming majority of the people who spoke or who represented veteran organizations or organizations close to the matter, were in substantial agreement that addition of the elements and addition of the elements in the location that the Commission approved was altogether appropriate and that the memorial as it will be completed is satisfactory and really a rewarding memorial for the Vietnam veterans.

Granted, there were voices in opposition, and there were voices whom we must respect for the position they take. They were veterans, they were wounded, they served their country and had strong views, but even those voices, I felt, were not as rancorous as they had been in the past. I believe the principal reason for that is that the memorial is an enormous success, and it is very difficult to gainsay that. We were there this morning. It doesn't matter how often you go, you are always overwhelmed by it. The conception as realized is even greater than the very fine design that caused the jury to select it. The elements that have been added, as one witness so eloquently testified to, are elements of specificity that very often people need. They need that reassurance that the patriotism is being stated, and that it is

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present in the memorial to the war dead or missing, and I think that all of those people who strove for the addition of those elements, and then having the elements added in the way they have been added, have brought about still further reconciliation, so that we see in this process what these really wonderful people who have worked so many years, Mr. Scruggs and Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Cooper, Bob Doubeck, have been striving for, and it is really a remarkable thing, and today's testimony was, over and over again, very moving. I commend you all. The Commission commends you.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: We have a long agenda ahead of us. There is one other element, the directories.

MR. NETSCH: I would say the honeymoon is over. I haven't taken a poll of my fellow Commissioners, and I am not objecting to the height and accessibility, but the idea of just one person looking and finding things seems to present a difficulty, and I see sort of specificity of the shape, of the angle of the memorial in the base of the lectern, and I find that an inappropriate way to restate, you know, an aesthetic element which is much deeper and much more compelling as you visualize what you see along the wall. I think that the other thing is that groups will want to look at things together. I think this is a togetherness adventure into one's

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soul and that you ought to consider the directories as being grouped so that people have a feeling of looking at it together, rather than one leader, so to speak, doing the seeking. And I think that I am unhappy that you are unable to finance something to get an electronic mode for referencing the names, because, having been the designer of the Air Force Academy and finding my walls constantly dug out for little remembrances to take home, I would just think that the pages here are so much simpler to take as a true souvenir that you are risking a too tantalizing an opportunity, and I think that the directory should be rethought in terms of the latter half of the 20th century, in terms of the techniques and availability.

I realize, as I say, that there may be financial problems to be faced, but let us try to face them and let us try to find the simplest way for finding a name.

MR. DOUBECK: I would like to speak to that. The question of the directory we are talking about, the number of stations that are needed, and we went so far as to go out for bids, develop specifications, and go out for bids on a cathode ray tube system, with a keyboard, and the whole problem, of course, is, again, you know, you are limited and it could only have, say, two TV screens or four TV screens. I, particularly,

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was offended by what I considered the gadgetry of the system. You know, the video game analogy struck me in a negative way. This is not something to be played with, and the fact was that to use a system like that would take some knowledge or some familiarity with this type of thing, and when we came down to it, whereas we have strived throughout our entire process to get the best memorial, we have not scrimped on putting in money, although we have scrimped on staff salary, we have not scrimped on putting money into doing what we consider the absolutely right thing, but we could replace three volumes a day for the same amount of money for us to simply buy an annual maintenance contract on an electronic system, and we are not going to be here -- you know, the Memorial Fund will eventually be dissolved and this will have to be given over to the Park Service, and you must remember the vagaries in the Park Service's budget. We cannot be sure, if we have an electronic system, if the budget would come through, or whatever.

MR. CHASE: Could I ask you a question? I hears someone say that the green pass-out type thing, that it was possible with that to find the location of the name on the wall.

MR. DOUBECK: Well, you can. It breaks out the list on the wall by month and year, so if you know the month and year in which a particular man or woman died or became missing,

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you can know what line to start searching on and on what line to finish your search.

MR. STONE: Conceivably you might have pamphlets with the names alphabetized.

MR. DOUBECK: They are in chronological order.

MR. STONE: But if somebody had an uncertainty, it could always be cross referenced.

MR. DOUBECK: You understand this directory has everyone's name. Everyone's name on the wall is in chronological order.

MR. STONE: I understand. I am just saying in some way, if somebody came in and received a hand-out with the initial "B" --

MR. NETSCH: We are saying it would be nice to take home the letter "N" that has the name of someone you came to see.

MR. DOUBECK: These directories we had printed, an initial printing of 3,000, to carry out our distribution plan of 2,000 for the Congressional offices and a thousand for the Park Service, for the continuing use by the guides. Immediately upon opening of the memorial, the first thing I have heard is where can I find one of these directories, so we have constantly put these directories on sale as a public service,

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for a nominal amount, to cover printing cost. They will continue to be on sale. We have made it known throughout the congressional offices that these are available, but the problem we are facing right now is simply to allow people who come to the memorial site on, say, a Tuesday afternoon in February, when there are no Park Service volunteer guides available, is to have a method to refer to to locate the names.

MR. CHASE: That, I think, may be where the problem is arising. I think you might be assuming that everyone that comes to the memorial will be using a directory, and I don't think that is true. If I were to just guess a percentage -- I don't know what it would be -- I am sure 50 percent coming to the memorial would not be interested in the directory. Then if that is the case, then an answer to this might easily be found in something other than a directory. I am just thinking of, say, six or eight people trying to stand in front of a telephone directory to find a name. You know how long this will take to thumb through it.

MR. DOUBECK: As we say, this is for 24 hours a day, seven days a week coverage. Right now there is a directory like this available at the Lincoln Memorial. I mean it has been a personal remorse for me to go to the site and, say, before 10:00 o'clock in the morning, before the dedicated volun-

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teers are there, and people are looking for a name, and I say, well, there is one available at the Lincoln Memorial. This is to have one right up over here next to the flag, where they know they can go and find a name.

MR. NETSCH: I concur. I think we will be arguing this like we have been listening to argument all day, until you get a mockup out there and get it in practice and share from the experience, learn from the experience.

MR. COOPER: We have a couple built.

MR. NETSCH: Let's put it out there. Our usual procedure is a mock-up. Let's get it into operation, and we can arrive at a much more logical decision.

MR. COOPER: You are reading more symbolism into the form than was intended.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: That is the first thing that jumped into my mind.

MR. DOUBECK: I didn't think about it until he mentioned it.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: That just shows it is the vessel which everyone was concerned about.

MR. DOUBECK: In effect, your decision is to defer any final --

MR. NETSCH: Go ahead with the mock-up and lets discuss

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it at such time as we have all had some experience with it.

MR. COOPER: We will be back anyway.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: I think you are all interested in getting rid of the sharp corners anyway.

MR. COOPER: Yes.

CHAIRMAN BROWN: You might want to change that when you come back, but try it out.

MR. CHASE: Then we will hold up approval on that at this time?

CHAIRMAN BROWN: That is right.

All right, thank you very much.

We move now to the Department of the Navy, Chesapeake Division.

MR. ATHERTON: Couldn't we take a short recess?

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Yes, let's take a 7th inning stretch here.

(Short recess)

CHAIRMAN BROWN: Let's reconvene and take up the next item on the agenda, which is submitted by the Department of the Navy, the Car Care Center at Bolling Air Force Base.

MR. MYER: Mr. Chairman, the other Commission members visited the site this morning. The proposal includes renovation of an existing gas station into a Car Care Center.

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THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

HAROLD BURSON
JOHN S. CHASE
SONDRA O. MYERS
WALTER A. NETSCH
ALAN R. NOVAK
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT A-3

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

February 24, 1983

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to confirm the Commission's approval on February 8, 1983 of one of the three schemes you submitted for the location of the sculpture and flagpole at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The approved plan is identified as Scheme 'A' and would place the statue of the three soldiers in an opening within the trees at the southwest entrance to the site. The flagpole would stand in the center of the path near the statue. A site plan is attached for reference.

The Commission believes that the statue would be seen to its best advantage at this location and could also be tied into a permanent circulation system affording access to the paths along the memorial walls. This latter point is an important consideration since the statue will become an element of major interest to visitors and must itself be easily accessible, especially to those who are handicapped. The same can be said for the flag which will have inscriptions on its base.

We also had the opportunity to view a mockup of the stand that will contain the directories needed for locating names on the walls. The Commission has some questions about the design of the stand, but we would have no objection to locating two or three mockups on a temporary basis at the site to test them out and see how the whole system works.

The Commission looks forward to working with the architect and representatives of the Memorial Fund in reviewing these remaining questions of design.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable
James G. Watt
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT B

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

February 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Lose,

This confirms that the Commission of Fine Arts approved designs for renovation of the Car Care Center at Bolling Air Force Base after viewing the site and drawings. This approval is contingent on the matching of details and materials between the existing structure and the additions.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert C. Lose
Director, Planning Division
Department of the Navy
Chesapeake Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Building 212, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

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CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT C

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

February 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Lose,

The Commission of Fine Arts approved designs for a new Navy Lodge Facility for Transients at Bolling Air Force Base after visiting the site on February 8, 1983. The design for the proposed building is simple and straightforward, and we welcome the removal of the World War Two cottages now on the site. A key to the success of the facility will be its setting. We note that the design drawings show landscaping around the building, and hope that this will be an integral part of the final construction contract. We also note that the project is adjacent to the Naval Research Laboratory which is industrial in character and also surrounded with chain link and barbed wire fences. Whatever can be done to screen this view would certainly be in the best interest of users of the new lodge facility.

As part of the Commission's meeting on February 8, we were able to tour Bolling Air Force Base. We appreciate having Mr. Frank Gerlak of the Navy's Chesapeake Division and Mr. Alex Burns of the Air Force's 1185th Civil Engineer Group along as knowledgeable guides. Because you are about to launch a landscape master planning effort, our members have some suggestions to pass along for your consideration.

We realize that some additional circulation planning may need to be done in connection with opening the massive DIA Building. This should include completion of the new boulevard and consolidating parking and destination movement, and should be studied as part of the landscaping plan. We note that many of the roadways are lined with cars, and most facilities are literally surrounded by continuous parking. Parking control and centralization will allow the planting of street trees, thus giving an environmental unity through definition of spaces and a continuous canopy of trees such as admired at Annapolis, Ft. Myer and even the general officers

area at Bolling. This will help tie the variety of building types and styles together. We are assured that you and your staff are aware of this and look forward to speedy implementation. We also look forward to assisting you and following the project in the future.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert C. Lose
Director, Planning Division
Department of the Navy
Chesapeake Division
Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Building 212, Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C. 20374

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ALAN R. NOVAK
EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT D

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

February 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Regan,

The Commission of Fine Arts was happy to meet with Mr. James Rich of your staff and give conceptual approval to the placement of a pair of flagpoles in Western Plaza during our February 8, 1983 meeting. After studying the drawings and visiting the site, however, we believe the actual flagpole base still needs further study. The addition of some sort of articulation to the surfaces through the introduction of horizontal bands or lines is suggested.

We will be glad to look at new studies by the architect any time they become available.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Tom Regan
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
425 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

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HAROLD BURSON — WALTER A. NETSCH
JOHN S. CHASE — ALAN R. NOVAK
SONDRA G. MYERS — EDWARD D. STONE, JR.
CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

EXHIBIT E

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

February 28, 1983

Dear Mr. Frere,

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the Admiral Hyman G. Rickover and Fred Waring medals at its meeting on 8 February 1983.

The following modifications were recommended to the obverse of the Rickover medal: move the Admiral's name to the bottom of the medal, following the curve of the edge; use the atomic structure diagram, rather than dots, to separate the words along the top edge; and eliminate this diagram at the right of the portrait. On the reverse, the members suggested that the lines separating parts of the inscription, and the periods following the word "distinguished", be eliminated.

The Fred Waring medal was approved, with the recommendation that the artist's initials on the obverse be reduced in size so they do not seem to be part of the design.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Francis B. Frere
Assistant Director of the Mint for Marketing
Bureau of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220